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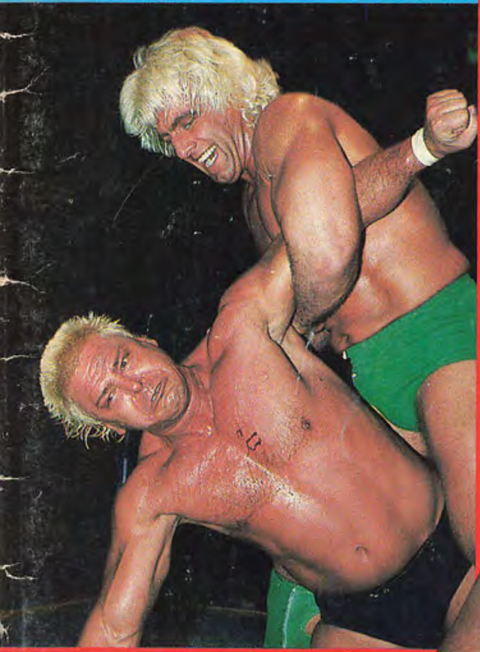

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THE Wrestler

CONTENTS/JULY 1986

6 YOUR LETTERS
Likes Lance A Lot; Dear Liz Letter; Outrage!

8 WHAT'S HAPPENING
All the latest news as of press time

10 CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS
Eyewitness coverage of the month's major matches

12 YOU ASKED US
Top stars answer YOUR questions

14 THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN
Cheers and jeers to those who deserve them most

18 INTRODUCING SIVA AFI
This hot star is burning up the WWF

22 Q & A
A timely discussion with Florida sensation Lex Lugar

26 X-RAY
Our panel of experts examines Steve Williams

28 SPOTLIGHT ON RICK MARTEL
Former AWA World champ is highlighted in a special feature

30 NIKITA KOLOFF OVERPOWERS SUPERSTAR GRAHAM: CAN ANYONE STOP THIS AWESOME RUSSIAN?
The Russian nightmare puts another opponent to sleep

32 WHEN HEROES HEAR THE BOOS: THE DARK SIDE OF THE FABULOUS ONES
Steve Keirn and Stan Lane—hated by the fans?

34 HE BENDS BUT HE WON'T BREAK: RIC FLAIR CANNOT BE BEATEN!
Pushed beyond his limits, Flair continues to be a great champion

37 HOW KING KONG BUNDY BECAME THE WWF'S MOST HATED MAN
Looking back on a horrifying experience in his past

40 MATT BROCK'S LOOKING BACK
August 1960: Crusher Lisowski vs. Primo Camera

42 OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS
The sport's most respected rankings

44 RATINGS ANALYSIS
An in-depth look at this month's ratings

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Cover photos: Flair vs. Garvin by Scott Romer Bundy by Bill Apter

THE WRESTLER is published monthly by G.C. London Publishing Corp., Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY, 11571. Single copy price $1.75. Annual subscription rate: $21. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage.

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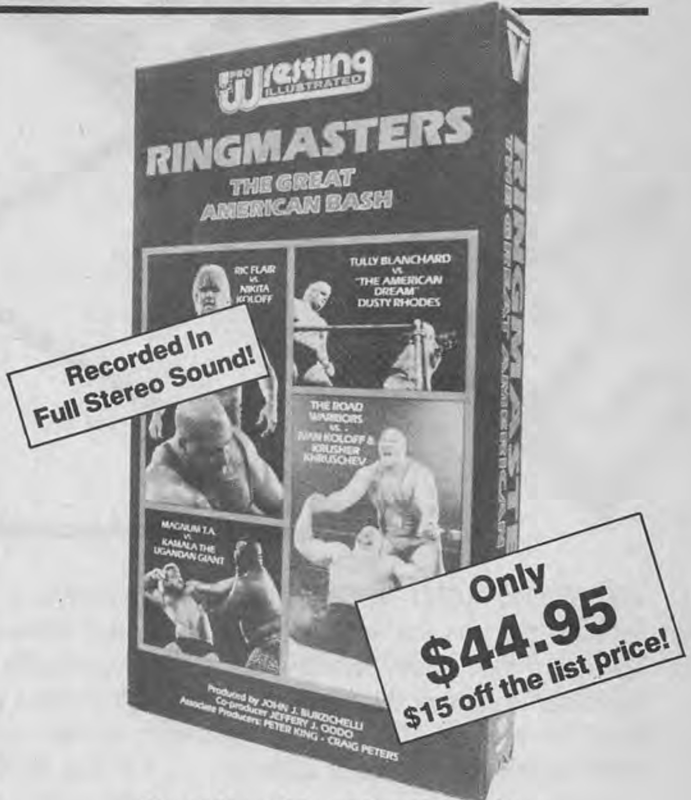

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YOUR LETTERS

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ZBYSZKO: RIGHT ABOUT HALL

There are few wrestlers who I respect less than Larry Zbyszko. However, his analysis of Scott Hall in the May '86 issue of *The Wrestler* was right on the money (Larry Zbyszko: "Stan Hansen Would Tear Scott Hall Apart!").

Whenvever I see Hall wrestle on television, AWA announcers say what a great wrestler he is. This couldn't be further from the truth. Sometimes, after he executes a move, he stands in the ring looking puzzled. He acts like he does not know what to do next. If he did that against Hansen, the Brazos Brawler would annihilate him. Maybe Hall will become a great wrestler, but at the moment he is not.

Another thing, I think Hall pays too much attention to the wrong people—like the Gagnes and Curt Hennig. Recently, I saw Hall wrestle Boris Zukhov in Baltimore. Hall won the match but received a brutal beating in the process. Afterward, he appeared on television and said he was embarrassed by the match because his mother and father had attended. Can you believe that? His mommy and daddy were there, so he got embarrassed. Only a wimp would say something like that on television. I believe this shows the Gagne influence. They're turning a potential superstar into a big wimpy mamma's boy. To be truly great, he must break away from them.

STEPHEN CARUSO
Columbia, MD

Larry Zbyszko was correct in his harsh analysis of young Scott Hall in the May issue of *The Wrestler*, writes Stephen Caruso. Caruso feels that Hall's current attitude will prevent him from achieving his superstar potential.

DEAR LIZ LETTER

I think Randy Savage should dump Miss Elizabeth in favor of a more experienced manager like Mr. Fuji. Elizabeth is too distracting for the "Macho Man." His attention is focused more on her than it is on the ring. It makes him look stupid, aside from it being potentially fatal. Besides, what exactly does Elizabeth do

(Continued on page 46)

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WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER

THERE IS A lot of news to report from the Mid-South area. First and foremost is the fact that the area will no longer be referred to as the Mid-South; it will now be known as the UWF—the Universal Wrestling Federation.

Details about the name change can be found in "Ratings Analysis" on page 46. What I'd like to explain here is the confusing title situation that has developed in the area.

In the second week of March, **Dick Slater** (then the co-holder of the North American title and the television title) held a press conference on a bridge overlooking the Arkansas River. Slater took the TV medallion and threw it into the river, claiming that it was "an unimpressive piece of junk." UWF President **Bill Watts** informed Slater that he had two weeks to replace the medal, and he had better be prepared to defend it during that time.

Several days later, Slater appeared at a taping of UWF television matches with a new belt he had made, but announced that he was *giving* the television belt to his good friend **Buzz Sawyer**. Watts

(Continued on page 50)

This photo ironically features all that Dick Slater lost in one night: his TV medallion, his North American title belt, and his valet, Dark Journey.

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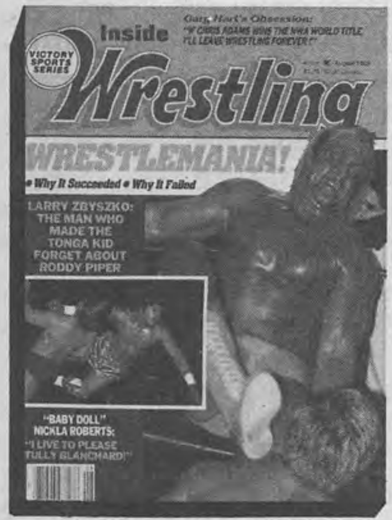

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CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS

Dusty Rhodes paid the price for his cage match Texas Death victory over Arn Anderson. To The Dream, though, it was well worth it.

Charlotte, NC *(Correspondent—Jack L. Murphy)*: "Revenge is mine and, daddy-boy, is it sweet!" shouted Dusty Rhodes as he was led back to the dressing room by Baby Doll following his marathon four-fall Texas Death victory over Arn Anderson.

Rhodes had begged promoters for this match for months, wishing to isolate Anderson—one of the men responsible for his broken ankle—inside a cage with no possibility of interference. He received his wish. And the results were to Dusty's liking.

Rhodes spent the first fall working on Anderson's left leg, and, at one point, kept Anderson locked in a figure-four for seven excruciating minutes. Anderson made it to the ropes to break the hold but was unable to curb Rhodes' momentum. Rhodes pinned Anderson to capture the first fall.

The second fall went to Anderson with the insidious help of a foreign object that he had stashed away in his boot. The pointed weapon took Rhodes by surprise and he fell easy victim to an Anderson pin.

Anderson maintained his advantage in the third fall, alternating face rakes with his weapon with face rakes across the cage. With Baby Doll urging him on, Rhodes managed to rally. He knocked the weapon from Anderson's hands but disdained its use, preferring the personal fury of his own hands. He caught Anderson in a headlock and rammed his opponent's head into the cage repeatedly, before tying him into a small package for the pin.

Anderson would barely register conciousness for the fourth fall. After Dusty easily pinned him, it became evident that Arn would not be able to continue. Dusty was awarded the victory, but he was not finished. Placing Anderson's leg on the top rope, Dusty mounted the turnbuckle and prepared to exact his *leg for a leg* revenge. Anderson realized his senses in time to scurry out of the cage.

In other bouts: Ric Flair defeated Magnum T.A. . . . The Midnight Express defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express . . . Manny Fernandez defeated Baron Von Raschke . . . Nelson Royal drew with Denny Brown . . . Don Kernodle beat Thunderfoot.

Greenwood, MS *(Correspondent—J.D. McKay Jr.)*: What began as a scientific wrestling encounter for the NWA World title, soon turned into a slathering bloodbath when champion Ric Flair opened a gaping cut on

(Continued on page 54)

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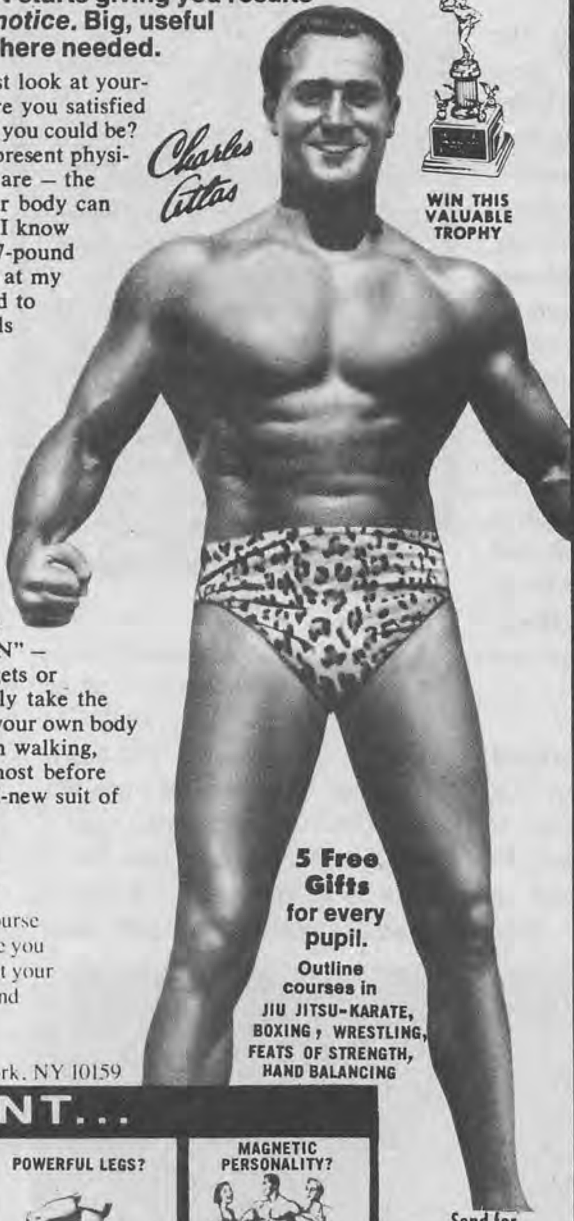

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Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR questions! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion.

Q: "My question is for Precious Paul Ellering: Why haven't the Legion of Doom recaptured the AWA World tag team title? Could it be that The Road Warriors are slipping? Getting old and complacent? Could it be that they just don't have it anymore?"—Scott Harris, Denver, CO

A: "I requested once before to *The Wrestler* that only intelligent questions be relayed to my office. If the editor in charge of this column considers Mr. Harris' question to contain anything but the bluntest imbecility, I suggest he be fired. The Road Warriors remain the highest paid, most sought-after tag team in professional wrestling. Their record is spotless. Teams quake in fear in their presence. We aren't very concerned with the appearance of success that belts provide. Any moron can own a belt, any jerk can buy a championship. Hawk, Animal, and myself are more concerned with the spillage of blood and guts. Period. And please do not bother me any further."

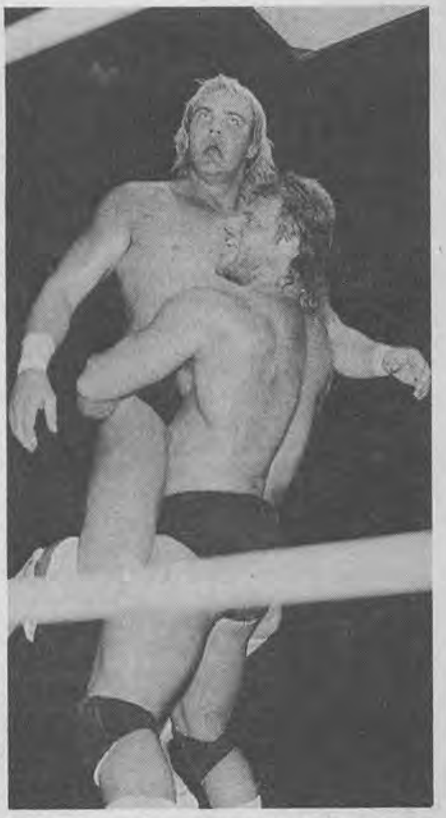
***

Q: "I would like to ask the greatest wrestler in the world today, Ric Flair the following question: If Greg Valentine would come back to the NWA and offer his support to you, Arn Anderson, and Tully Blanchard in the war against the fat rodent, Dusty Rhodes and his pet pansy, Magnum T.A., would you accept?"—Sean Barna, Pittsburgh

A: "Me and Valentine had some brutal wars," Flair replied, "and I don't know if I could trust him to keep to an agreement. It's hard to imagine anyone siding with Dusty Rhodes on anything, but Valentine always groveled around the NWA belt. There's no telling what he might do now. I don't think it's worth the risk. Besides, how many people does one really need to deflate Fat Hoss Rhodes?"

***

Q: "My question is for Lex Lugar: How come a good-looking, muscular stud like yourself is wasting his time wrestling scrawny wimps like the Windhams? Why don't you move to the Mid-Southern area and help clean it up of people like Bill Dundee and Buddy Landell? You'd sure be a hit with the fans in Memphis."—Dana Lohden, Glasgow, KY



Lex Lugar claims to get enjoyment out of "beating up the Windhams." He would, however, like to pay Jerry Lawler a visit in the Mid-Southern area one day.

A: Prepare yourself, Dana, for Luger's reply. It's not pretty. "Tell that pimply pre-pubescent that Lex Lugar doesn't cater to anyone else's desires but his own. I like beating up the Windhams. Wrestling them is like going into the gym and hitting the speed bag. Landell and

(Continued on page 56)

Ric Flair has had some gory matches with Greg Valentine, but he also teamed with "The Hammer" to win the NWA World tag team title. According to Ric, it is doubtful that they would ever get back together.

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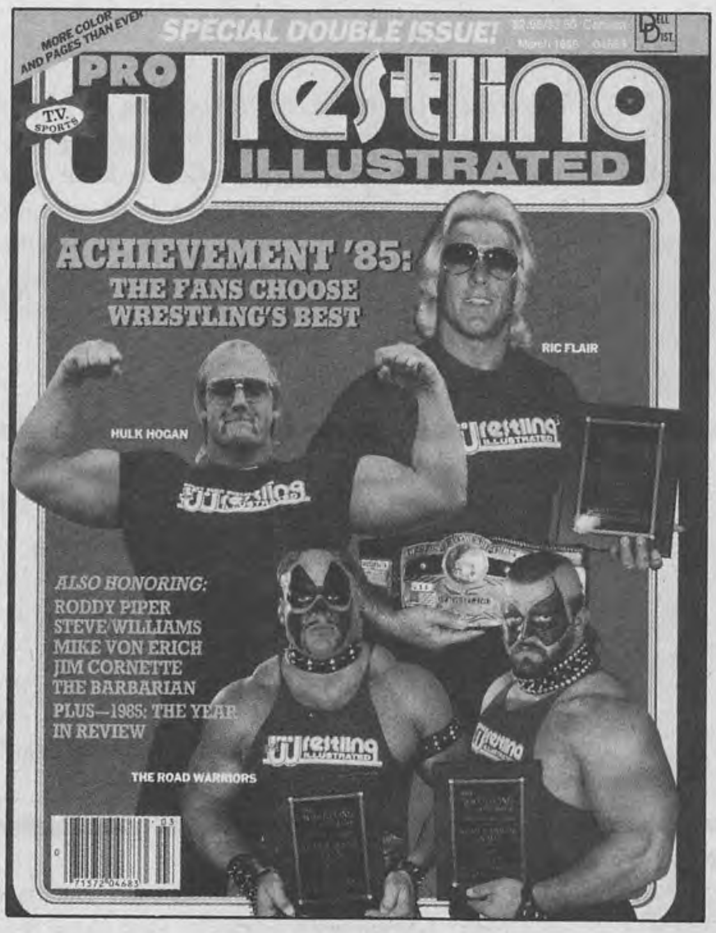

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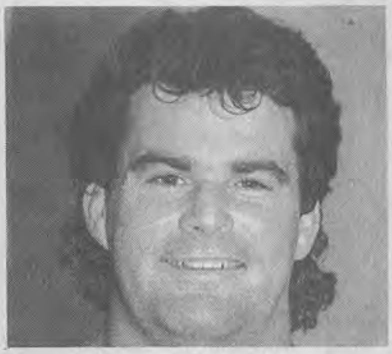
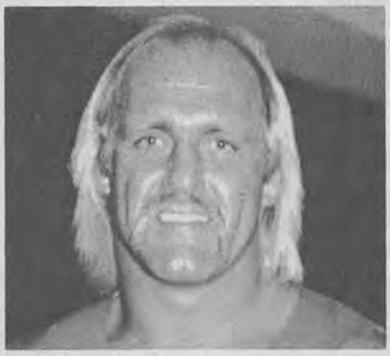
Thumbs Up

Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.

Thumbs Up to Jerry Lawler: The King of Memphis wrestling returned triumphantly home to rescue the rulebreaking-plagued Mid-Southern area. Lawler's return was cleared by promoter Eddie Marlin, who waived the remaining three months of his six-month exile, the result of Lawler's loser-leave-town loss to Buddy Landell back in December. In his return, Lawler teamed with Dutch Mantel to thrash Landell and Bill Dundee in a brawl that sold out the Mid-South Coliseum. Since then Lawler has restored order to the area and sent Landell and Dundee scurrying for cover.



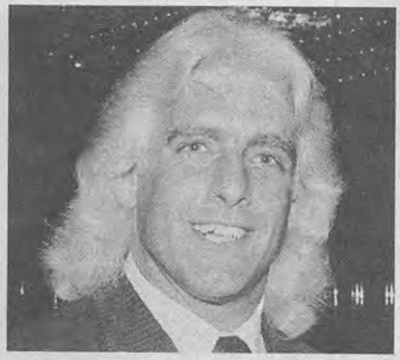
Thumbs Up to Brian Adidas: The mysterious Grappler's reign of terror as Texas champion is over, thanks to the inspired challenge of Brian Adidas and the recent World Class rule change. The history of their feud had been one of Adidas' domination, but the young star was unable to wrest the crown from the Grappler, because of the masked man's penchant for disqualification. This time, Grappler threw Adidas over the top rope and was duly disqualified by referee Rick Hazzard. Under the new rules, the match *and* title were given to Adidas, one instance, at least, where the new rules rewarded excellence.



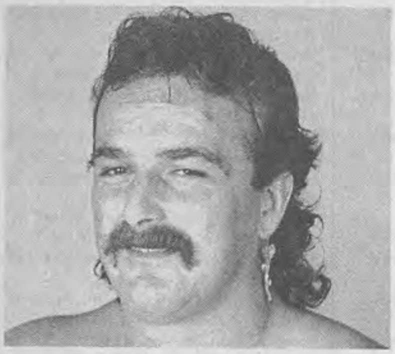
Thumbs Up to Hulk Hogan: What more can be said? The recipient of a life-endangering beating at the hands of King Kong Bundy and Magnificent Muraco, Hogan returns *two nights* later to resoundingly defeat his number one contender, Randy Savage. With injuries to his spine, ribs, and stomach, Hogan agrees to a cage match against Bundy, the feature match of WrestleMania 2, leaving him—between training and promotional work—practically no time to recover from his injuries. If the indomitable Hogan survives Bundy's challenge, he must go a long way to convince us of his flesh and blood mortality.

Thumbs Up to Bruiser Brody: The nomadic maniac has returned to the AWA, a territory that tried to depose him several months back. Brody's iconoclastic behavior brings instant life back to a region where it is sorely needed. Although we loathe to think of the unconquerable tag team of Brody and Stan Hansen reforming, we must appreciate the blockbuster style Brody brings to any region. One can't survive on a faire of white bread and milk forever; with Brody, fans can rely on matches heavy on spice and flavor.

Thumbs Down

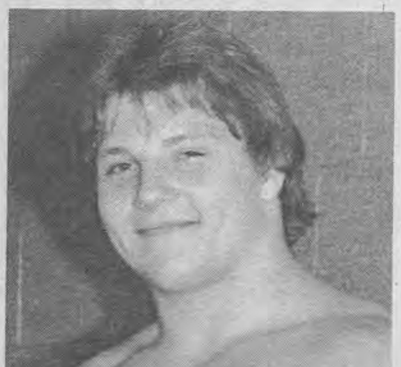


Thumbs Down to Ric Flair: The NWA champ has seen this page too often but never for an offense this flagrant. While color commentating the National title match between Tully Blanchard and Dusty Rhodes, Flair left his seat to retrieve a foreign object J.J. Dillon had thrown to Blanchard. Flair handed the weapon to Blanchard, and it became the turning point of the match. Minutes later, Blanchard cold-cocked Rhodes into oblivion and stole his title. Flair's reprehensible act should at least net him a fine and suspension, but so far no action has been taken by the lethargic NWA Board of Governors.



Thumbs Down to Jake Roberts: Roberts courted and conquered the fans' worship in the Mid-South area through a series of brutal encounters against notorious rulebreaker Dick Slater and his Cleopatric vixen, Dark Journey. Just as their feud reached its resolution, Roberts fled the area for the moneyed environs of the WWF, leaving the fans in the lurch, and Slater on top. Now, while plying his rulebreaking trade in the WWF, Roberts has introduced a snake—rumored to be the deadly African Gaboon Viper—as a deadly accompaniment to his brutal ring tactics.

Thumbs Down to Randy Savage: Savage has enjoyed spectacular success in the WWF, but has failed to share any of the spoils with his brother, Lanny Poffo. Despite the differences in their wrestling philosophies, one would assume Savage would not discharge himself of his familial responsibilities. Could the Intercontinental champ be embarrassed of his brother? If that is the case, then Poffo is better off on his own, allowing his steady, if not spectacular, technique to be its own spokesman.



Thumbs Down to David Sammartino: The man with wrestling's most recognizable surname would help his career considerably by settling down. We saluted David's move from the WWF and from the stunting shadow of his father, feeling that any movement at this stage of his career was a positive one. Once in the AWA, however, Sammartino never took the time to establish his name. He received a long-desired world title shot and was beaten by Stan Hansen. Rather than take the necessary steps to secure another title shot, he has chosen to leave the AWA. While Sammartino has succeeded in becoming nationally known, his constant movement is not helping him become the wrestler the experts feel he is capable of becoming. □

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November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.
January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.
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May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.
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August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.
September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.
October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.
November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.
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March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.
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December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.
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April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.
May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.
June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.
July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.
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September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.
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November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.
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September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

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December 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

March 1983/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

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January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

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April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

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March 1986/Stories include: Lance Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen vs. Martel

April 1986/Stories include: Kevin Von Erich, Rude, Lex Lugar, Hogan, Magnum TA.

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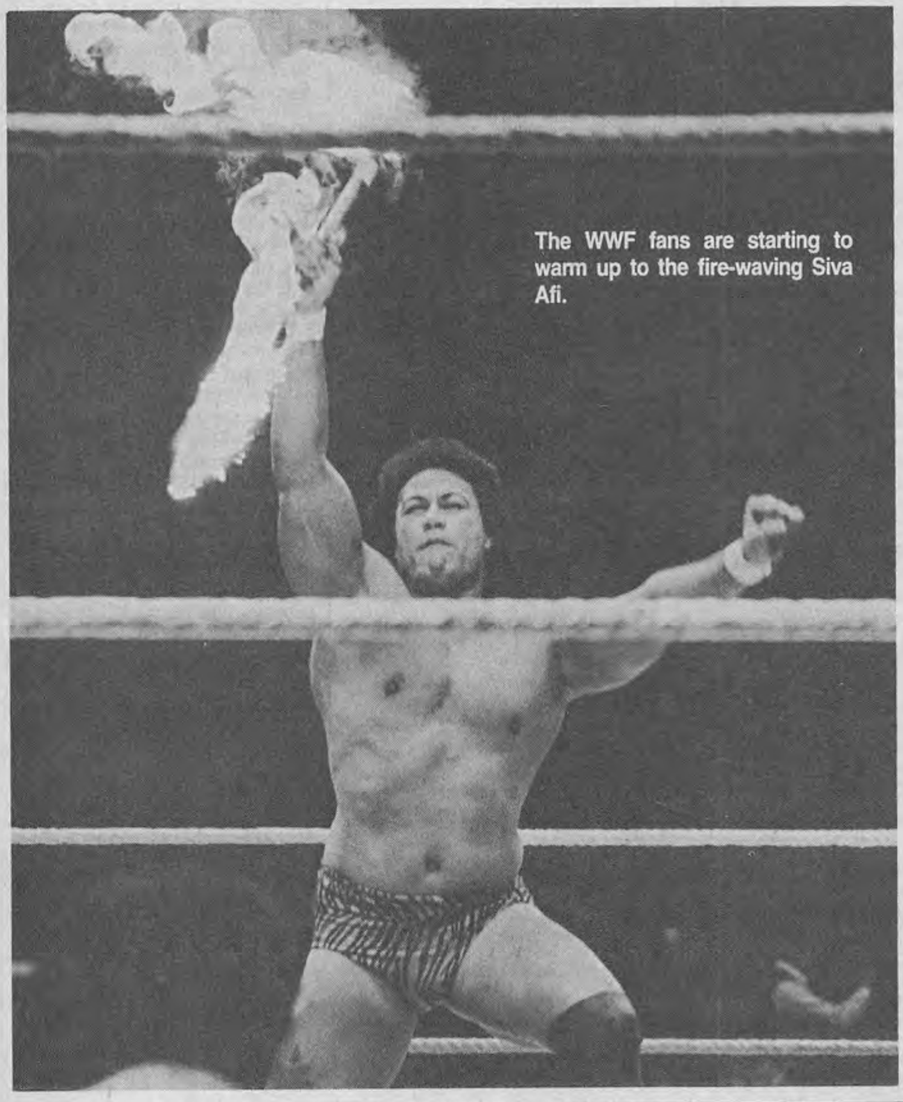
INTRODUCING SIVA AFI

WHEN "SUPERFLY" Siva Afi signed on with the WWF—a contract that would bring him to the American mainland for the first time in his life—the first thing his cousin Lia Maivia told him to do was buy shoes—and wear them.

"I remember when Jimmy Snuka first went to the Pacific Northwest," the Polynesian promoter recalled. "My husband, Peter, told him he'd need shoes in the big cities. All that glass and rocks and hot tar. Jimmy never wore shoes in his life. Islanders rarely wear anything on their feet. Jimmy didn't pack any. Well, he called one night from Portland and you should have heard him! He couldn't stop complaining about his aching feet. After that, he always covered his feet when he wasn't in the ring."



The WWF fans are starting to warm up to the fire-waving Siva Afi.

Siva Afi will not make the same mistake Superfly Snuka did, although there are those who claim he has made one far worse. Afi has claimed publicly that he and Snuka are cousins, and, according to a mutual friend back in Samoa, this is creating waves of trouble for him back home on the Islands.

"Families over here are very tightly knit," explained the friend, who begged anonymity. "Afi is living a lie. He is duping the WWF fans who don't know any better, and mocking the Island fans who know the truth. It will come back to haunt him.

"Afi is from Samoa; Snuka is from Fiji. Although they know each other well, they are not related in any way at all."

Confusion was the hallmark of Afi's Madison Square Garden debut in January. As the houselights

(Continued on page 20)

After 14 years in the South Pacific, "Superfly" Siva Afi has finally introduced himself to the American mainland. Although initial reactions were less than super, the persistent Polynesian is determined to win over his audience

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INTRODUCING

(Continued from page 18)

Afi aims his bare foot at Terry Gibbs' midsection. Afi is best known for his aerial ability. And while he is not related to Superfly Snuka, his ring style is similar.

dimmed, a lone figure darted into the ring twirling a fiery baton. To the urgent music of "Shaft," the silhouette hurled its baton into the air, bringing the 22,000 fans out of their seats in excitement.

Murmurs lit through the arena. *"Snuka . . . Snuka . . . Snuka . . .,"* the chant rose to a humming throb. When the lights went on to reveal the curious, grass-skirted person of Superfly Afi, the crowd hooted its disapproval. Although Afi performed spectacularly in his victory over Ron Shaw, the crowd several times renewed its derisive Snuka chant and rewarded Afi's victory with virulent indifference.

Since then, the Superfly has courted and won their approval, partly due to the false relationship the WWF has claimed to exist between Afi and Snuka. This is a shame, since Afi's talents certainly warrant a fame of their own. A newcomer to American fans, Afi is no rookie in the ring. This Superfly has refined his aerial skills over a 14-year career that has seen him possess regional titles in Samoa, Korea, Tonga, New Zealand, and Fiji. In 1979, Afi defeated Hans Slaughter to capture the Polynesian championship, and defended the belt until 1981, when Lars Anderson used a brutal sequence of rulebreaks to wrest the title from him. In 1982, Afi and Big Bad Leroy Brown became the Polynesian tag team champions.

Peter Maivia introduced his first cousin to the ring when Afi was an 18-year-old sponge diver, entertaining rich tourists off the picturesque Samoan coasts. Like fellow Polynesians Snuka and The Tonga Kid, Afi was blessed with incomparable balance, which enabled him to seemingly defy gravity in the execution of his dauntless aerial maneuvers.

Quickly, Afi became one of the most feared and respected competitors in the Polynesian area. Each year he would oppose the reigning NWA champion during his annual tour of the islands.

"He's a tough competitor," is all Ric Flair would say about Afi, but film clips show Afi coming precariously close to stripping Flair of his belt. In one match, on the island of Tonga, and in front of an audience that included South Pacific neighbors Ernest Borgnine and Marlon Brando, Afi had Flair's shoulders pinned to the mat for the three-count, but the referee had been knocked from the ring. When Afi went to check on the official's condition, Flair slugged him from behind and pinned him.

So far, Afi has not issued a challenge to WWF Intercontinental champion Randy Savage, although such a rivalry seems natural. "He's still probably in awe of the big cities," suggests Mrs. Maivia, who speaks with her cousin once a week. "A lot has happened to him in a very short time. It clouds the senses. Many times Afi becomes homesick and considers leaving, but he knows if he wishes to leave his mark on the wrestling world, then he must bear up to the hardships and persevere.

"He has all the talent a man needs. We know that. Now he must show the rest of the world." □

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Q&A

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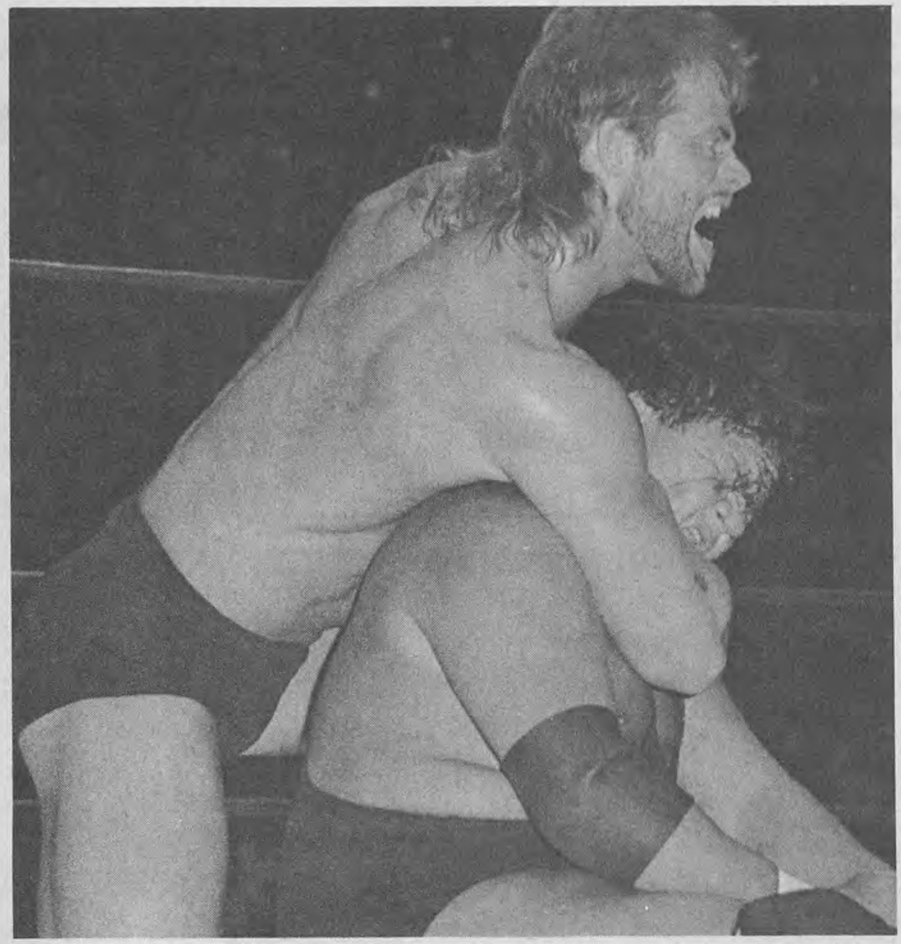


Lex Lugar has been trying to hasten Wahoo McDaniel's retirement from wrestling. "How a professional athlete can allow himself to degenerate into his condition is abominable."

Q: Can I offer you a beer, Mr. Lugar?

A: I don't drink. I don't smoke. I don't take steroids or cocaine or any other kind of pill or drug. I respect my body and it has never failed me. I'll be honest with you, Brock, I think it's a terrible thing the way you romanticize alcohol in your columns. Kids respect you and your opinions. Kids are imitative, like parrots. They read about your habits and think that getting soused is a good thing.

Q: You surprise me, Mr. Lugar. A confirmed rulebreaker like yourself concerned about the effect I might have on the public? You're in the public eye far more often than myself. What about the potential hazard your rulebreaking has on the children who cheer you on?

A: I'm comfortable with my lifestyle.

Q: As I am with mine.

A: Would a parent rather his child become a hard-drinking, slovenly old man or a title-winning wrestler?

Q: While this Q & A session is not to be an indictment of my personal habits, I feel I must correct a misunderstanding. My stories do not sanction irresponsible drinking, nor do they advertise the wonders of booze. I am a journalist. I drink. I've discovered over the years the scintillating, almost artistic effect a martini straight up has on the writ-

LEX LUGAR

THEY HAVE EMERGED like modern day Goliaths from America's heartland and coastlines. But unlike their biblical counterpart, Dan Spivey, Scott Hall, Steve Williams, and Nord the Barbarian will not be felled by slingshots or missiles. This new young breed of giant combines speed, courage, tenacity, and strength—strength so overwhelming that promoters have difficulty finding them opponents.

Into such a class storms Chicago-born Leg Lugar. Standing 6'5" and weighing 280 pounds, Lugar has attained the most individual success of his classmates, riding his physical assets and the managerial acumen of Hiro Matsuda to capture the Southern title on two separate occasions. Like his native city, Lugar is slaughterhouse tough, immune to comparison with other wrestlers, willing to let his achievements speak for themselves in the ring.

In fact, it required the crafty interviewing skills and persistent phone-calling of reporter Matt Brock to wean this Q & A from the usually close-mouthed Lugar. Matsuda accompanied his pupil to the session, although never once did he interrupt, only an occasional arch of his eyebrow betraying his slight emotional shifts. At first, Lugar was hostile to the veteran reporter, but later opened up to our garrulous scribe.

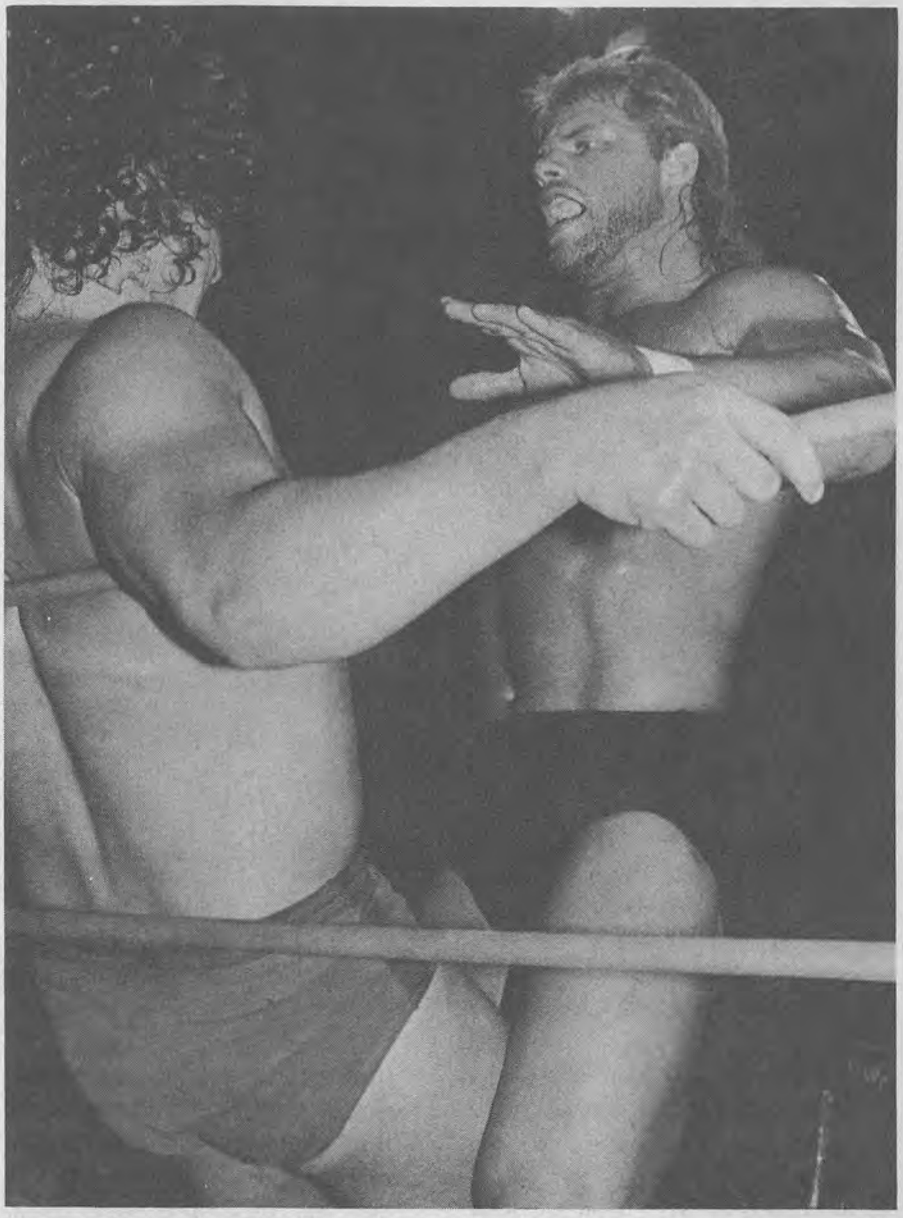
ten word. I've never suggested that others follow my example. The drug menace in pro sports has become a consuming monster, and I would use the power of my pen only to combat it. I support your position on the evils of narcotics. Beyond that, let us stick to *your* career, which is far more interesting than the drinking habits of this overworked hack. Now, Mr. Lugar, I agree that you possess one helluva physique. Have you always been in such awesome shape, or is yours the old story of the 97-pound weakling?

A: I was blessed with a rock-hard body that I've made tougher through training and more resilient with the help of Hiro Matsuda.

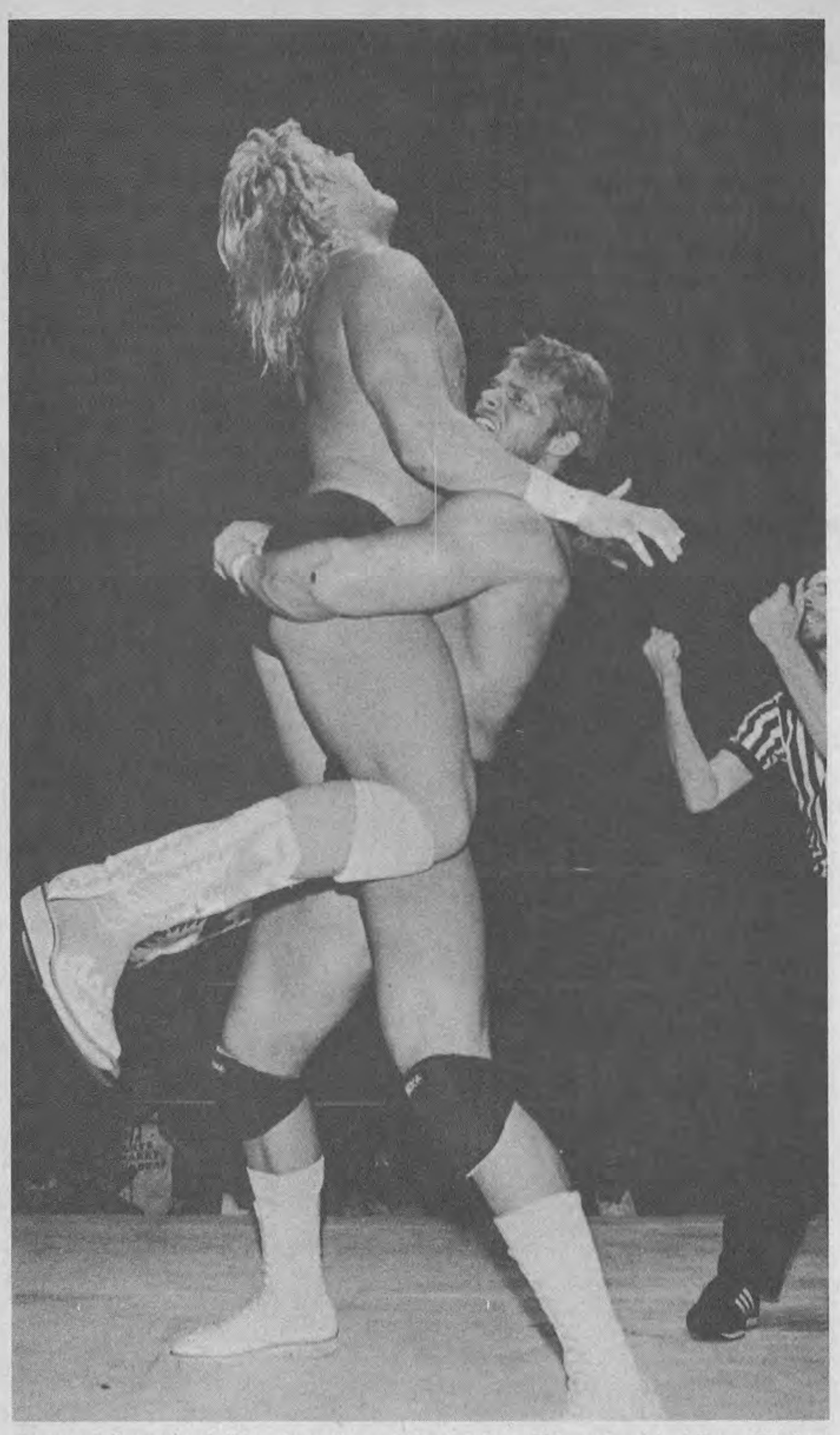
Q: How has Matsuda enhanced your training techniques? How has he made you a better wrestler?

A: He's introduced to me 5,000 years worth of Oriental mind control. He's opened the doors to my subconscious. You've seen the Tibetans walk over hot coals and lay on beds of needles. There's no trick to that. It's all real. They are able to block off their pain centers. Matsuda has increased my endurance, my circulation, and flexibility. I am an indestructible fighting machine.

Q: You strike me as a mix between The Road Warriors and Bruiser,



Lugar shoves Jesse Barr into the corner. Barr gave Lex a wrestling lesson in January when he won his Southern title. A month later, a matured Lugar regained the title.



Lugar applies several different versions of the bearhug. This one, against Barry Windham, is designed to place pressure on the coccyx. Referee Bill Alfonso asks Windham if he has had enough. In this position, any lesser man would have said yes.

just by the way you speak and conduct yourself in and out of the ring. What does that comparison do for you?

A: **Not much at all. I grew up worshiping Bruiser and Dick Butkus. More than anyone, those two were my role models. In high school, I used to tie a rope around my car, sling it over my shoulders and pull it to school like Butkus did. I used to clear out bars the way Bruiser did. But these men wore down. Bruiser became a beer-bellied brawler and Butkus' body betrayed him. I'm a new breed of conditioned athlete. The Road Warriors can't wrestle. They can only punch and brawl, and though they do that very well, they're limited. I can beat you to the mat and into the mat. My strength and technique and endurance make me practically unbeatable.**

Q: When Jesse Barr defeated you for the Southern title in January you went berserk while Matsuda took the defeat calmly, rationally. What did he say to you after the match?

A: **Matsuda doesn't allow his emotions to get the best of him. He is not a dispassionate man, merely rational. He loves telling me the story about the man being attacked by a gunman. The man, his back against the wall, screams in terror and fright. The gunman cocks his gun and shoots him. Did the man expect his screams to disarm the criminal? Of what use was his outburst? It served no purpose other than to get him killed. Matsuda told me that going berserk would not win me back the belt at that moment.**

Q: So what did you do?

A: **I went berserk. I ripped off the dressing room door, busted a television, and threw a locker through a plate glass window. It cost me about $5,000 in damages.**

Q: What good did it do?

A: **It made me feel better, but Matsuda's point was well taken. I stepped up my training schedule, paid attention to technique, and beat the hell out of Barr in the rematch.**

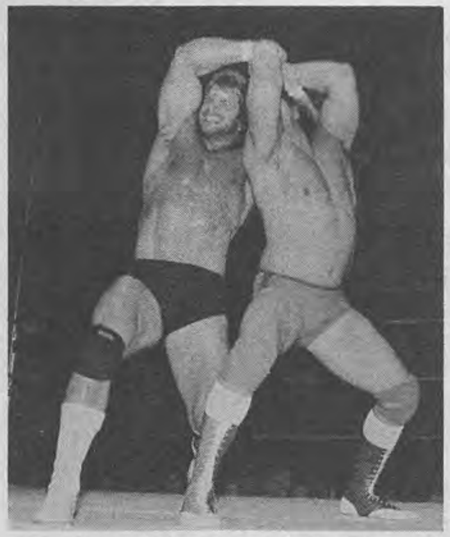
Q: Barry and Kendall Windham have accused you of cheating your way to the top and vowed to run you out of town. I imagine their threats don't have you quaking in your boots.

A: **Your imagination is absolutely right. The Windham boys are such a bunch of losers. I always admired the old man Mulligan, but in his old age he's become a dottering nitwit. If it were possible, I'd like to wrestle the three of them in a handicap match, but they'd never**

agree to it. It would be too embarrassing when I piled the three on top of each other.

Q: And what about the challenge of Wahoo McDaniel? He may have slowed down some lately, but he's more than made up for it with ring guile and strategic smarts.

A: Get serious, Brock. Yahoo should have retired to a cigar store 10 years ago. How a professional athlete can allow himself to degenerate into his condition is abominable. He's not worth the punch to knock him out.



Regardless of Hiro Matsuda's teaching ability, Lugar's forte will always be his overwhelming strength.

Q: When will Lex Lugar mount his challenge for the NWA World title?

A: I'm in no hurry. I recognize that despite my physical superiority, I might not be ready for someone like Flair—at least not this month. By the end of 1986 I will be in a position where a world title and Lex Lugar will be spoken of in the same breath.

Q: You're sure you don't want a beer?

A: You're a good man, Brock, and I'll mourn at your funeral. Do yourself a favor and jump on the wagon. Get healthy. It's the thing to do these days.

Q: I always avoided the thing to do. Good luck, Mr. Lugar, in your search for eternal health, immortality, and the NWA title. □

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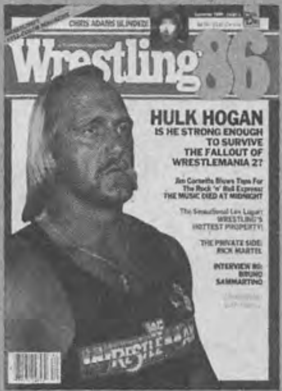

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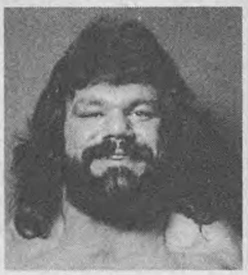
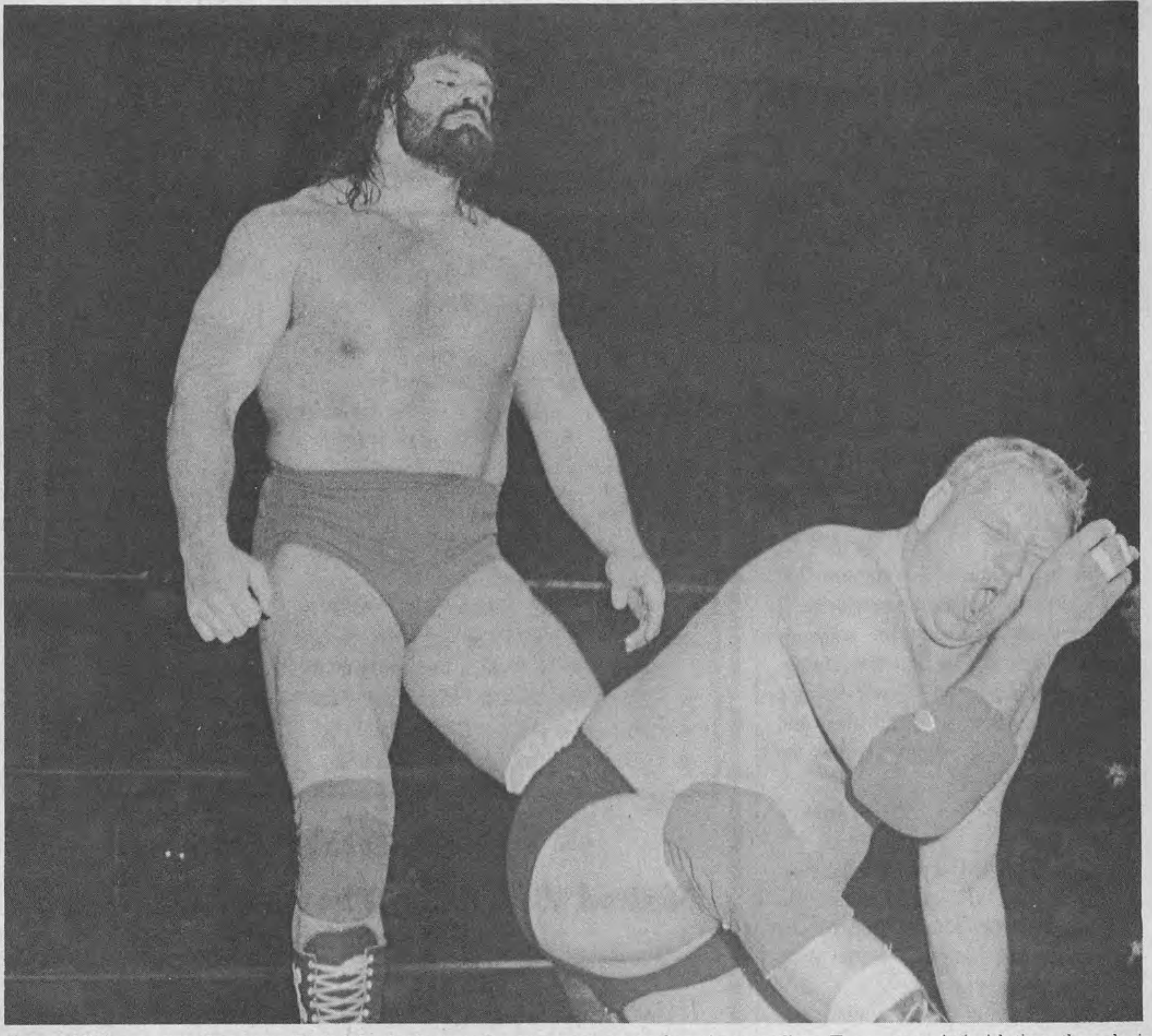


STEVE WILLIAMS

Each month THE WRESTLER'S panel of experts will offer their candid opinions of one of wrestling's stars. Whether an up-and- coming youngster or an established superstar in his own right, our panel will always be frank and honest without fear of reprisal



Steve Williams, standing over Dick Murdoch, has the meanest game face in wrestling. Even more intimidating, though, is his fierce competitiveness and natural ferociousness. Dr. Death, most of our experts agree, will be on top of his sport for many years to come.

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"While vacationing in Oklahoma, I saw Steve Williams wrestle and was immediately taken by his style. I don't think I've seen a tougher competitor in 25 years. Now that the fans support him, I think you'll see Steve Williams slowly break into more singles matches, eventually winding up with a world championship. He's a strong guy who can beat you scientifically. He has guts and character. I like his chances as much as anyone's."

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is the most popular wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.

KILLER KOWALSKI

"If Williams doesn't bend to the cheers of the fans, he's a championship lock. The man can teach at my wrestling school anytime he likes. What I like most about Williams is his tenacity. He's like one of those Bull Terriers in the ring. Once he sets his mind to the task, he will do it. That's why I hope the cheers of the fans don't corrupt him. I hope they don't make him soft. That's the only thing that can stop him."

Killer Kowalski, one of the most sadistic rulebreakers in the sport's history, runs a wrestling school in Reading, Massachusetts.

GENE KINISKI

"Williams had more promise than anyone in the ring until his partner, DiBiase, started falling in love with the cheers. I've seen it happen before to men tougher than Williams. A few cheers, they turn to mush. With his strength and his fortitude, he doesn't need anyone. I'm talking about a potential world champion and I'm not a softie for compliments. But he's ruined. Unless he goes back to his roughnecking ways, he'll never realize his potential."

Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.

BUDDY ROGERS

"Inspite of myself, I have always admired Williams. Here was a rulebreaker with a wealth of scientific experience as great as anyone's in the business. I saw him as a Stan Hansen clone—smart and brutal, but ultimately self-destructive. But then Hansen proves me wrong by winning the AWA title and Williams embraces the fans—maybe not embraces, but accepts them anyway. His future is his to create. He has all the goods to be a champion. He's one of the best to come along in years."

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold both the NWA World title and the WWF title.

LOU THESZ

"For a man of Williams' size to be able to move so quickly and employ so many scientific maneuvers is incredible. His courage, though, is what will carry him to his greatest successes. The man is indomitable. He has a collegiate wrestler's mentality: *Give it all you got all of the time.* With the endurance to match such a philosophy, I see no reason why Williams won't be wearing a championship belt in the very near future."

Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.

VERNE GAGNE

"I saw Williams wrestle at Oklahoma and was impressed. I thought he'd wind up playing football for the next 15 years. When I heard he was wrestling full-time, I knew the sport was in for a treat. Williams is one of those rare individuals who combines every element it takes to be a successful grappler. Now he must learn the strategies that come over a period of time. Once he gets those down, he will be champion."

Verne Gagne held the AWA World title a record 11 times. He was voted "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years by the wrestling media.

THE Wrestler

SPOT LiGHTS...

From time to time, *The Wrestler* will shine its spotlight on an outstanding wrestler, manager, or tag team. These are unforgettable highlights of the sport's greatest stars, compiled by the largest staff of editors and photographers in wrestling journalism

RICK MARTEL

THE YEARS WON'T STOP, even for the comely, soft-spoken kid from Quebec. It seems like yesterday that Rick Martel teamed with Larry O'Day to capture his first title, the Australian tag team title. Yet a glance at the calendar might add gray to Martel's moppish black locks. 1972 was the year of that title acquisition and the intervening 14 years have seen Martel impressively expand his trophy case.

A series of titles rounded out the '70s—the Georgia tag title twice, first with partner and mentor Mr. Wrestling II in '75, then with Tommy Rich in '78. In between, Martel added the highly coveted Commonwealth title (especially gratifying because of his Canadian roots), a belt he tamed King Curtis for in Auckland, New Zealand, in '77.

By 1980, Martel's title itinerary began to resemble an airline brochure. His tenure as the Hawaiian heavyweight champion in '78 and again in 1980 was the most leisurely of his career. Although his reign consumed most of the ice hockey season—hockey being Martel's primary out-of-ring passion—Martel diversified and learned the wonders of scuba diving, surfing, and volcano climbing. He returns yearly for week-long Hawaiian holidays.

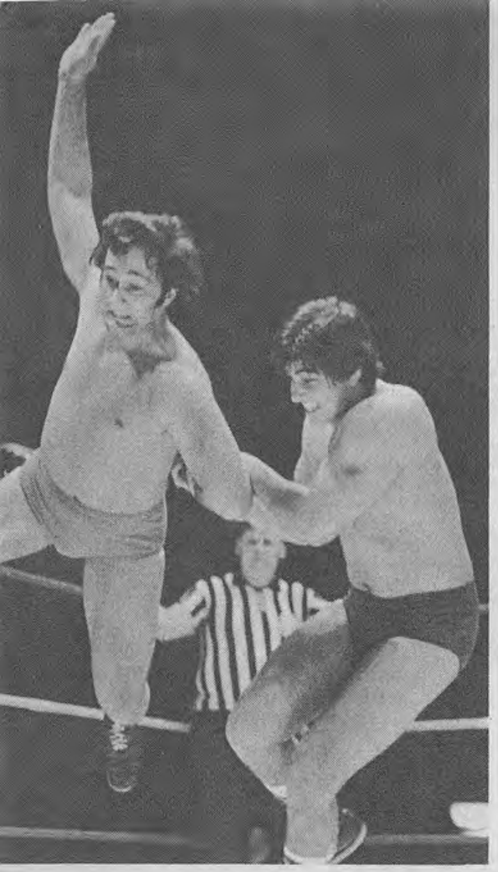
By mid-1980, Martel had returned to the familiar Northeast and formed a tag team with Tony Garea, whose acquaintance he first made years before at a rugby tournament in New Zealand. Their friendship and ring success moved fast. Twice they held the highly sought WWF tag team titles, defeating the Lou Albano-managed teams of The Moondogs and The Samoans.

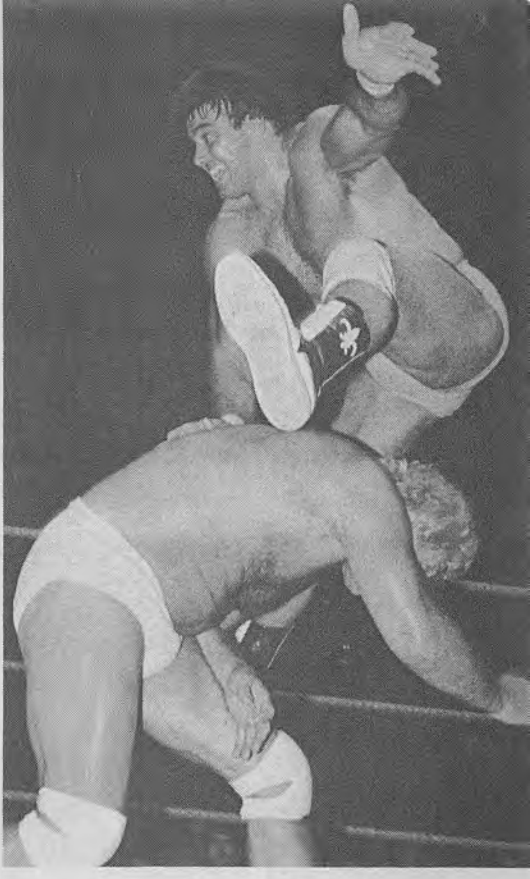
Martel and Garea split amicably in 1981, when Martel decided it was time to explore different territories. On June 18, 1982, Martel defeated AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel in a non-title match and caught the world championship bug. Martel slowly climbed the AWA ratings, refined his craft, learned to brawl to compliment his scientific style, and on a spring night in St. Paul, Minnesota, defeated Jumbo Tsuruta for the AWA World title. The date: May 13, 1984, is inscribed on a plaque that sits proudly in the den of Martel's Montreal garden duplex.

For a year and a half, Martel defended his title courageously against all types of opponents, rulebreaking and scientific. On December 29, 1985, suffering from a severely bruised back, Martel could not withstand the challenge of Stan Hansen. He submitted to Hansen's brutal "Brazos Valley backbreaker" and relinquished his crown.

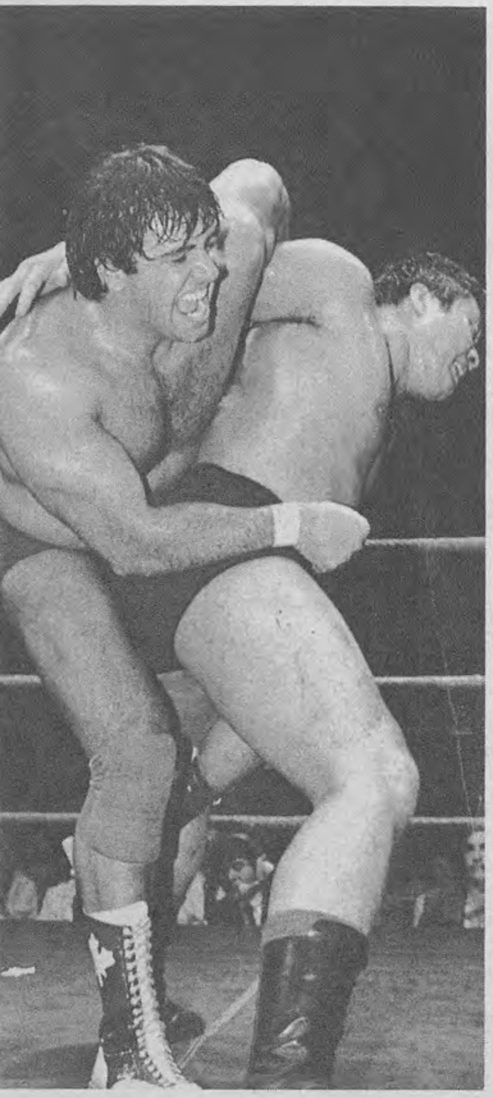
After a month-long layoff, Rick Martel was back in the ring, aware of the promise he made to his thousands of fans. "I will win the title back," he said. And Rick Martel is not the type of man to make a promise he has no intentions of fulfilling.

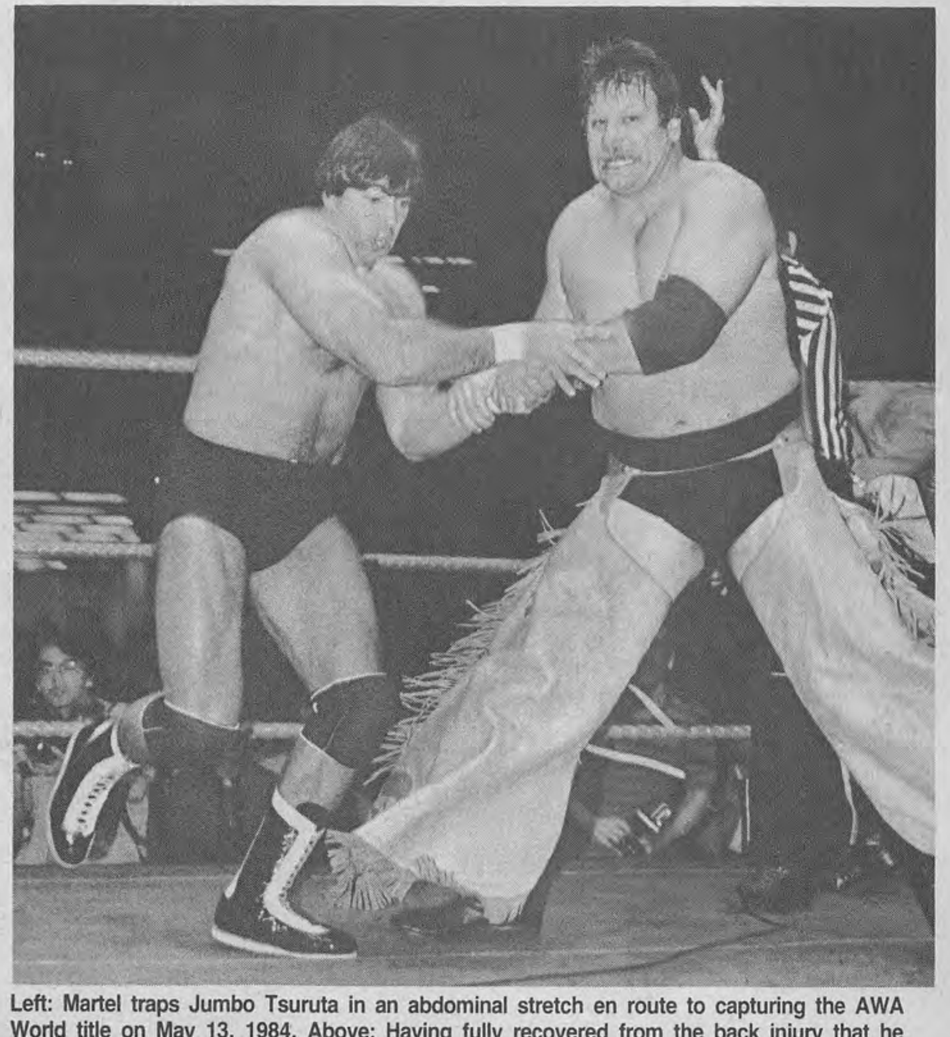
Rick Martel is a master technician who has the ability to make the most difficult moves and maneuvers seem easy to execute.





Left: In 1974, just three years into his career, Martel swings Gorman Purdy to the mat with a hammerlock. Above: Rick admires his belt after he and Tony Garea win the WWF tag team title from The Moondogs in 1980. Right: Martel leaps over the veteran Nick Bockwinkel in an AWA match.

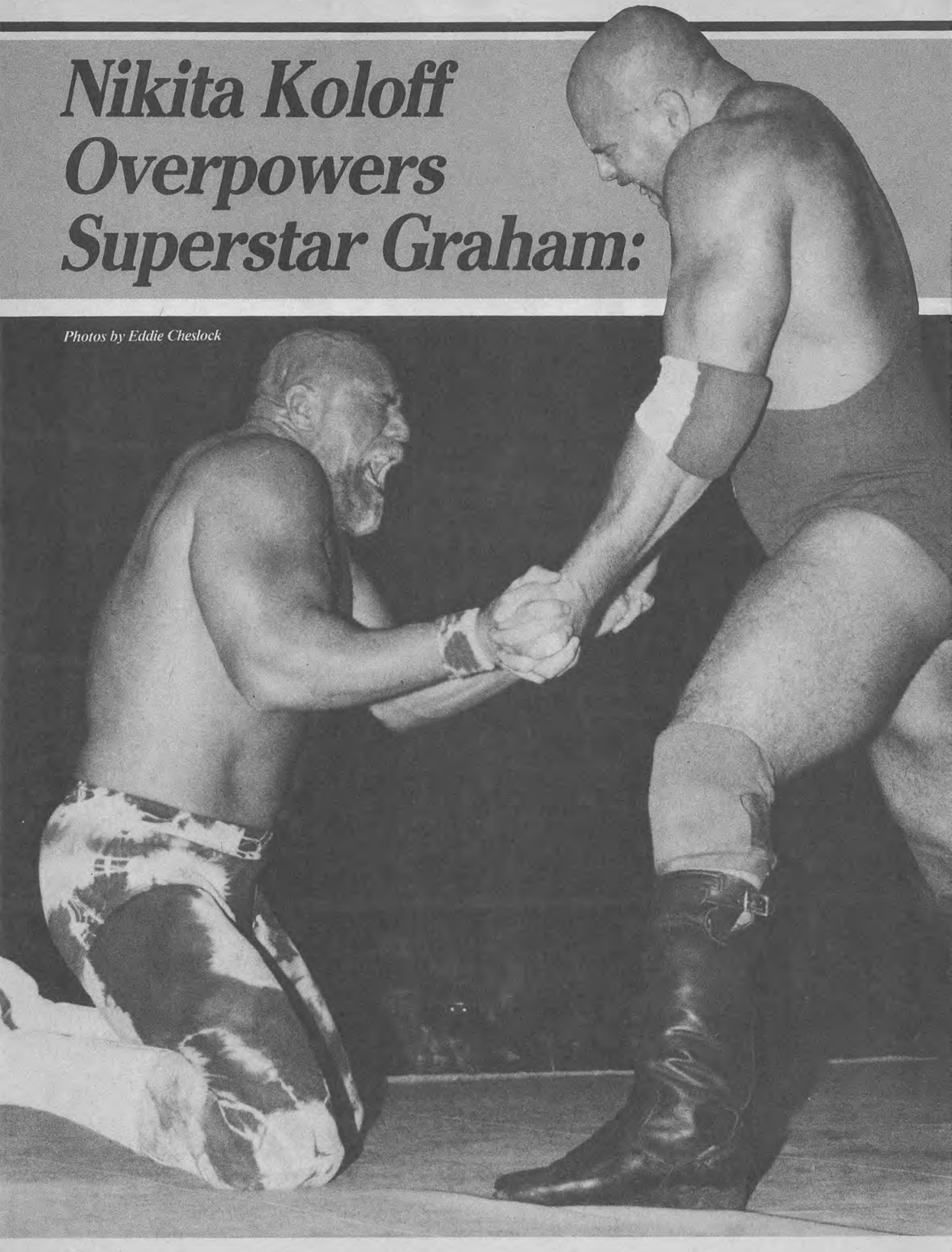




Left: Martel traps Jumbo Tsuruta in an abdominal stretch en route to capturing the AWA World title on May 13, 1984. Above: Having fully recovered from the back injury that he suffered before losing the title to Stan Hansen in New Jersey on December 29, Martel has signed for a series of rematches.

Nikita Koloff Overpowers Superstar Graham:

Photos by Eddie Cheslock



CAN ANYONE STOP THIS AWESOME RUSSIAN?

Superstar Billy Graham signed against Nikita Koloff seeking revenge and honor. What he found instead was a fighting machine determined to end his career

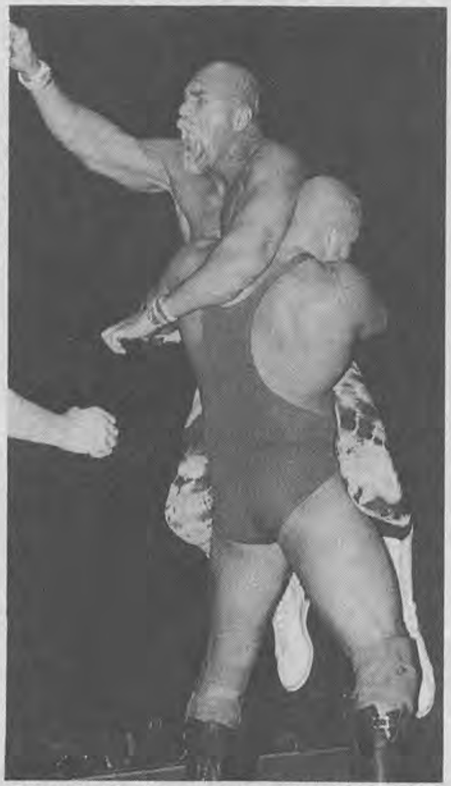
October, 1973. An early winter wind sweeps ice up the spines of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Superstar Billy Graham and Ivan Koloff, in shirtsleeves, jog lightly through the fallen leaves, discussing strategy for their scheduled tag team match.

Later that night, Koloff would refuse Graham's tag, watching indifferently as Graham withstood the poundings of two opponents, eventually summoning all of his Herculean powers to pin them both.

Fueling Graham's wrath was the manner in which Koloff sneered and walked away following the bout. Graham never forgot that sneer, and although his career took on many shapes and convolutions, his vow of revenge was never forgotten.

As fate writes it, Graham, now a fan favorite in the World Championship area, has drifted into a feud against Koloff's powerful nephew, Nikita. The years have been kind to Graham; it has barely diminished his great strength while he has complimented nature's gift with a commanding knowledge of the martial arts, giving him more confidence than ever before.

Yet, given the vast parameters of his skills and ring wisdom, and the immutable powers of revenge, Superstar Billy Graham was still no match for 24-year-old Nikita Koloff, again giving rise to the ominous question: Can anyone stop this awesome Russian?

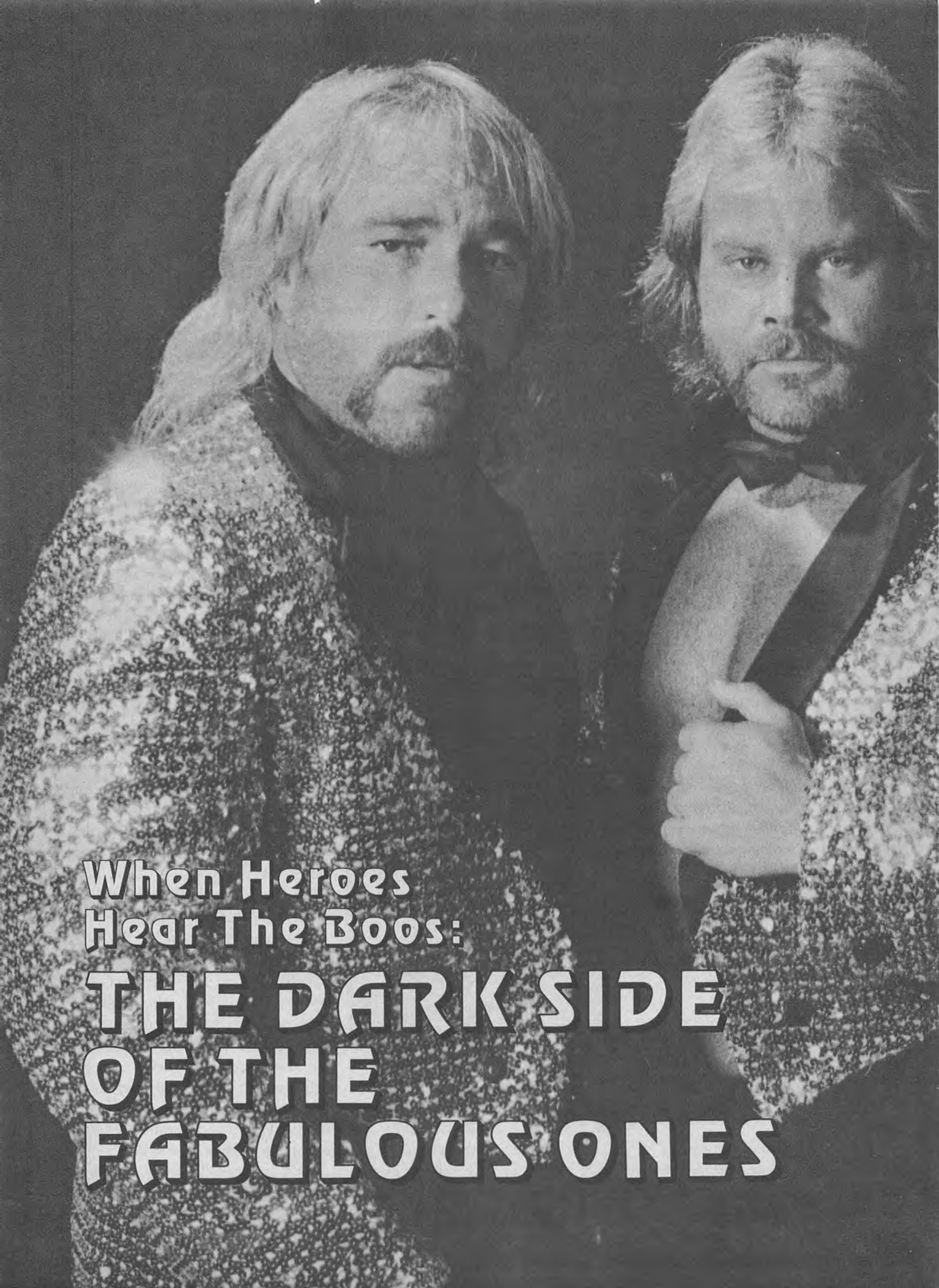


Superstar Graham spent much of his match with Nikita Koloff with a pained expression on his face.

THEY STOOD IN center ring, touching eyeballs, Graham's face a mask of oriental dispassion. If you could hear the veteran's thoughts, though, they would sound something like *I've been waiting to kick the cossack out of some Russian scum for 13 years. My mind is my strength. I shall prevail.*

Nikita Koloff indulged himself with no such philosophies. His was a lexicon of hate and brutality, a vocabulary that Graham would reluctantly come to understand. Koloff casts shadows over small buildings and he towered over the psychedelically clad Graham—in itself an unsettling sight. Remembered by many for his awesome physique, Graham scaled like a toy soldier against the Russian giant.

Conceding to the whims of history, the wrestlers began the match with a test of strength. Graham, who had outmuscled Bruno Sammartino to win the WWF title back in '77, surprised the Russian with a swift surge of power to gain the early advantage. With tendons and veins pulsating in rhythm to the crowd's cheers, Graham forced Koloff down to one knee. Yet, there was something odd about Koloff's submission; it lacked the panic one might expect. The strength of the Russian Thunderclap had never been tested; muscular dominance had always been assumed and opponents sought other strategies to defeat him. Even the mighty Road Warriors relied more on elbows and punches than risk flirting with Koloff's awesome reservoir of muscle. *(Continued on page 58)*

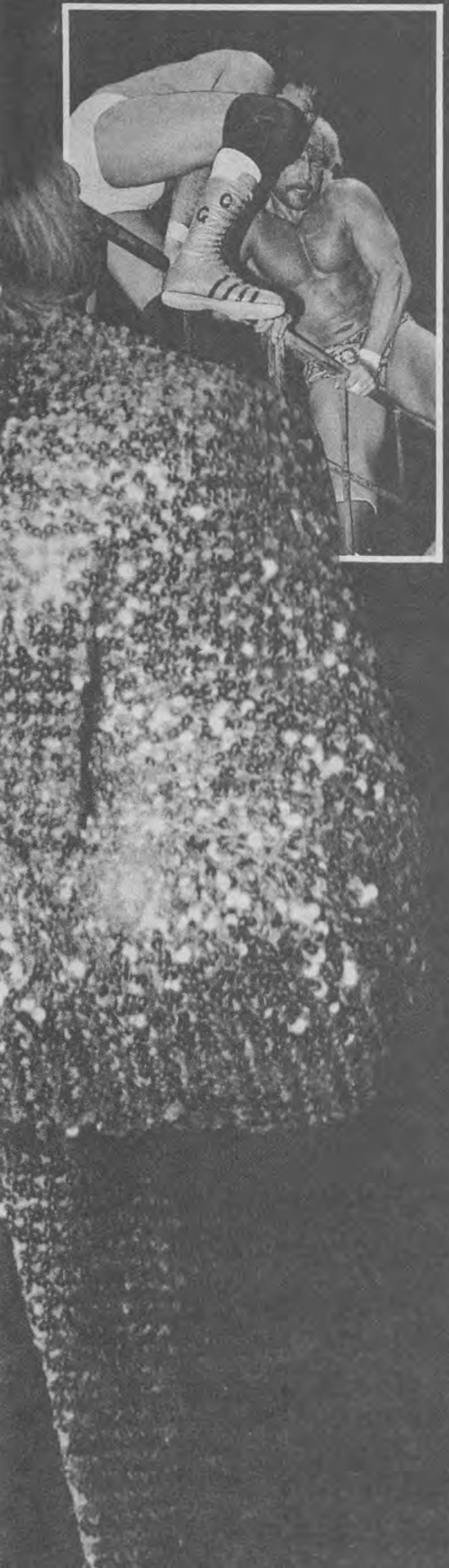


When Heroes Hear The Boos:

THE DARK SIDE OF THE FABULOUS ONES

What happens when fan favorites lose their fans? For the explosive Fabulous Ones, it might indicate a change in style and strategy they may soon regret

Photos by Peter Rene



Wrestling in a cage match against the Guerreros, The Fabulous Ones barely resembled the tag team that has over the years become known for its brilliant technique and sense of fair play. This was one in a series of wars that could have been—and should have been—a great scientific encounter.

A MATCH BETWEEN The Fabulous Ones and the Guerreros a year ago promised science in its most sublime form. Steve Keirn and Hector Guerrero above the ropes, trafficking in technique, exchanging aerial moves of impossible difficulty factors. Stan Lane and Chavo deep in the mat, scurrying like crabs, entwined in each others' limbs. This imagined meeting would end in a draw; handshakes, high-fives graciously exchanged, each team racing to sing the other's praises. Beers and dinner would follow and the friends would depart for struggles elsewhere.

One look at the photographs accompanying this story tells you it wasn't that pretty. Keirn and Lane are bitter imitations of the smiling playboys who, standing beside The Rock 'n' Roll Express, shot to fame on the cover of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* back in May of 1985. In that issue the bearded heartthrobs were described as a "dynamic, charismatic, skilled team that has the confidence to make it to the top."

What a difference a year makes. Today, Keirn and Lane have abandoned the science that elevated them as high as four in the ratings, and, amidst the disillusioned boos of their former fans, have adapted to a rulebreaking style of contemptible brutality.

"It's all a bunch of claptrap," Stan Lane disagreed. "Here in Houston, where the Guerreros are worshipped, we're booed and hooted. In Florida, when we wrestle against Kevin Sullivan, the fans cheer like mad for us. But if we wrestled the Windhams, you bet we'd get Bronx cheers and raspberries. It gets to a point where you don't know why you're booed or cheered. We don't want to lose our fans, but first we must understand why they're leaving us."

"Our style *has* shifted," Lane conceded. "But that's only to keep pace with the rest of the wrestling world.

(Continued on page 62)

He Bends But He Won't Break:

RIC FLAIR CANNOT BE BEATEN!

The sport's top men have taken him to the limits of his endurance and beyond. By all human standards, he should have lost his NWA World title months ago. Maybe Ric Flair isn't human after all!

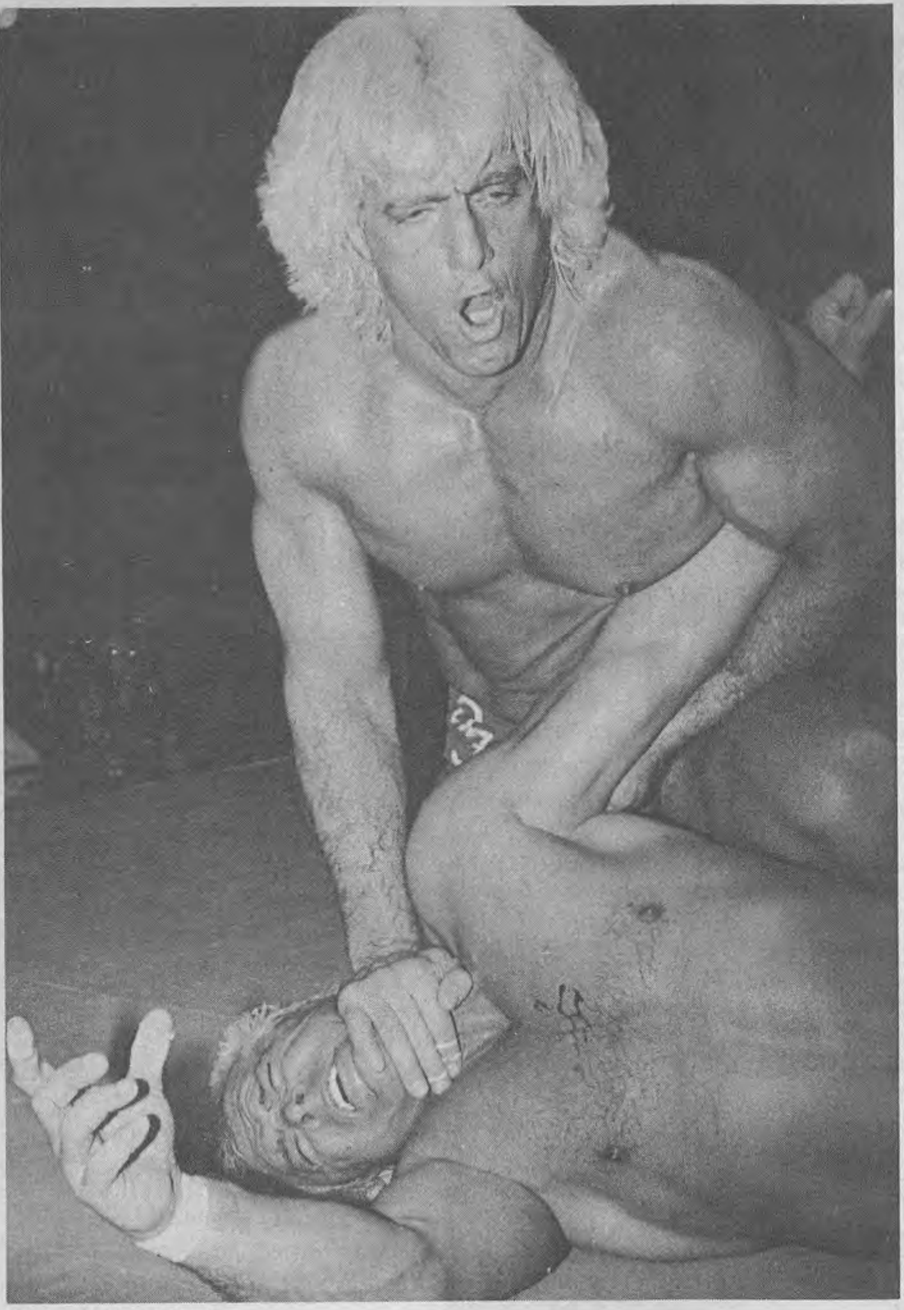
OVER 20,000 FANS are whipped into a frenzy, cheering insanely as Ronnie Garvin captures Ric Flair in an abdominal stretch. Garvin releases the hold, hurls Flair into the ropes, and tries to roll him up into a small package on the rebound. Flair kicks out at the two count. The crowd groans, and the screams of encouragement to Garvin grow louder.

The arena spotlight blends with the thick sweat on Garvin and Flair and makes both men's bodies glisten like cut crystal. The fans are sweating, too; they've been as involved in this match as the combatants over the past 55 minutes. It won't be long before the bell rings, signaling the end of the one-hour time limit.

Garvin struggles against his body's demands for respite. He moves in on the champion, delivering a kneelift to Flair's chin. The champion's head snaps back. He is stunned. Flair collapses backward into the corner, and Garvin presses his advantage.

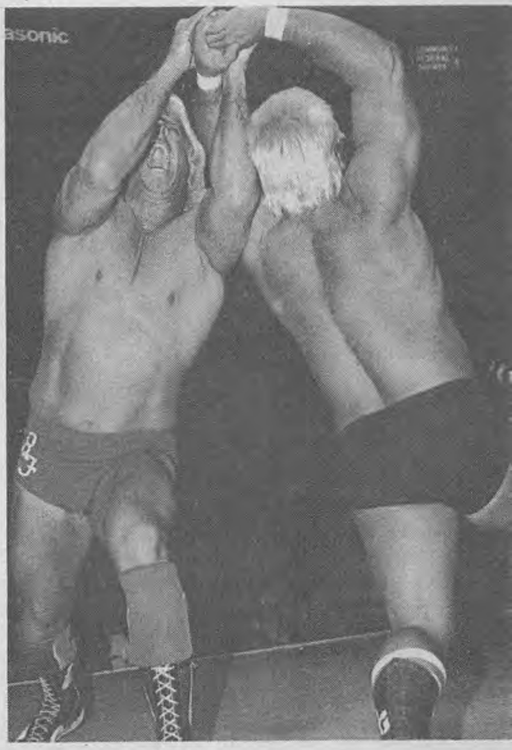
As Garvin's hands become twin blurs of punishing activity, the bell rings and the referee moves in to break up the action. Garvin and Flair have battled to another one-hour draw.

"Wait a minute, wait a minute!" Garvin implores as the fans hoot and holler and Flair collapses to the mat to catch his breath. "I want five more minutes. Just five more!" The fans



Photos by Scott Romer

Flair holds Garvin in place with an armbar while twisting his neck with his free hand (left). Ronnie cinches down on a stepover toehold, drawing a cry of agony from the champion (above). A test of strength (below) ordinarily has little effect on the match from a physical standpoint, but could make a great deal of difference from a mental aspect.



cheer their approval, and Flair, weary and exhausted, reluctantly agrees.

In less than the allotted 300 seconds, Garvin pins Flair's shoulders to the mat. But the pinfall hasn't taken place within the contractually-recognized 60 minutes. The title remains with Flair. But Garvin is encouraged, because that pinfall brings him one step closer to the championship gold.

Upon returning to his dressing room, however, Flair downplays Garvin's accomplishment.

"Look, brother, do you think I'm about to strain myself to defend against a pinfall when I've just put my butt on the line for a full hour? You show me anyone else in wrestling, any other champion, who can go a full hour. None. The closest I've heard in the past year is my man Jim Garvin and Steve Regal [who lost their AWA World tag belts to Scott Hall and Curt Hennig at the 58-minute mark.]

"Sure, I was pinned by Garvin. But that pin doesn't mean anything. It was a non-title pinfall. And frankly, like I said, I wasn't straining myself in those five minutes. There's no need to. Sure, I'll let Garvin have the pinfall. It's all a part of the psychological game of wrestling. Garvin gets overconfident because of that, and then watch slick Ric the next time we step through those ring ropes together!"

Garvin, however, disagrees vehemently with Flair's excuses.

"Ric Flair is not the kind of man who is going to let anyone get an easy pin on him," he said. "He has too much of an ego, too much pride. He always wants to look the very best to the fans, and he's very aware of his image. He's not about to let anybody

have anything at the expense of his ego. You can bet those last five minutes meant as much to him as the previous 60, and you can bet that my pinfall, even though it didn't win the title, made Flair hurt pretty darn hard deep down."

Two other wrestlers who agree with Garvin's point of view are Dusty Rhodes and Magnum T.A.

"I've taken Flair to the one-hour limit on several occasions," T.A. told *The Wrestler,* "and let's face it: He's good. He's damn good. Hell, he's the best. He knows more counterwrestling than anyone else in the sport. But his days are numbered. Time was when Flair could put a man away in 15 or 20 minutes tops. But I've been pressing him to an hour, Ronnie's been pressing him to an hour, and Dusty's been pressing him to an hour. Heck, the first time Flair went into the ring against Nikita Koloff it lasted almost 45 minutes!"

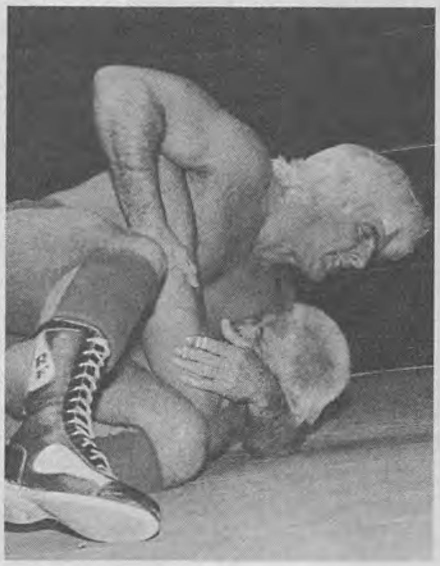
"I agree with my main man Magnum, here," Rhodes said. "Ricky Flair, the man's title is soon to be *history,* jack. It's soon to be passed on. The changing of the guard is about to happen, daddy, and you can bet that when the axe falls, it's gonna fall hard, and it's gonna fall right on Ricky Flair's scrawny little neck, jack!"

One man who presents what is arguably the most objective view of Flair's current status is a man who has seen hundreds of Ric Flair title defenses: *World Championship Wrestling* announcer Tony Schiavone.

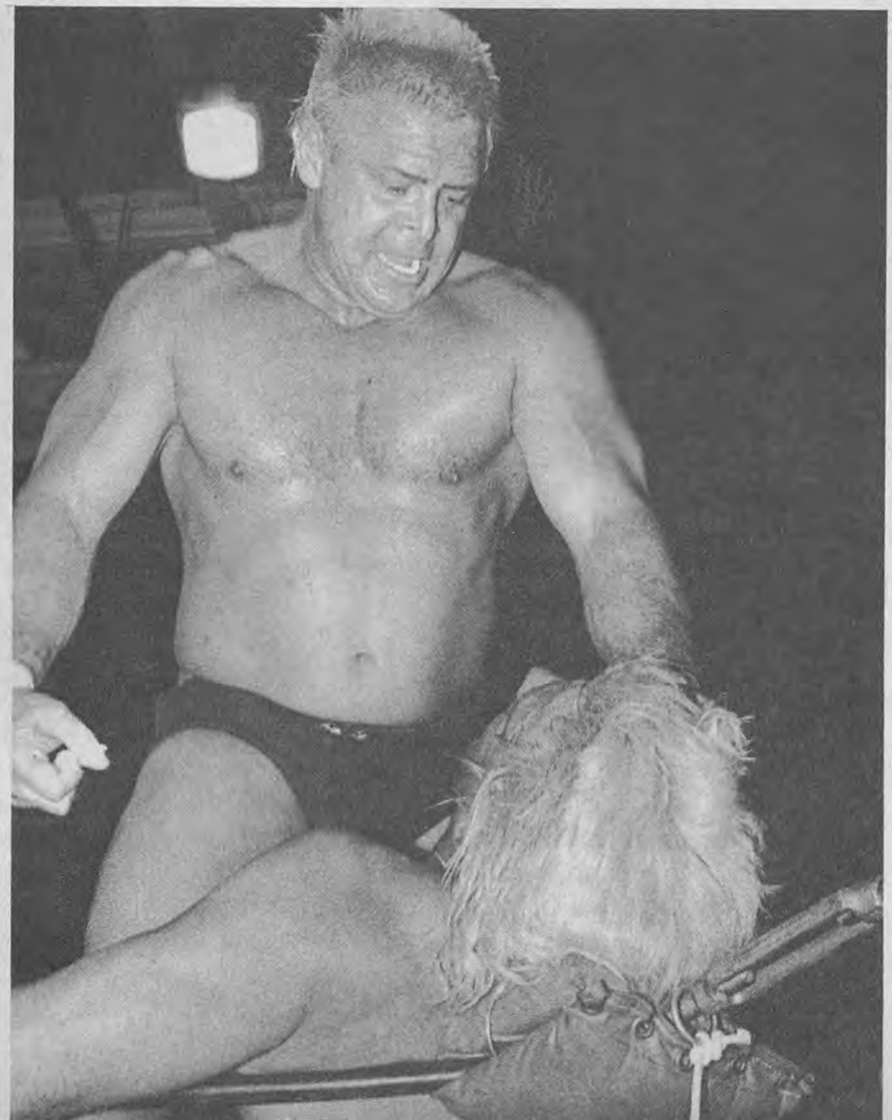
"Let's face it, Flair is a tactical master of the sport," Schiavone said. "And right now, the cream has risen to the top. He's been defending against Garvin, against Rhodes, against Koloff, against Magnum, even against Harley Race and Wahoo McDaniel. The list just seems to go on and on and on, and the competition has never been tougher.

"But I disagree with Dusty," Schiavone added. "I don't think Flair's ready to fall at all. I think he's reaffirming his championship, and he's doing it in the most amazing way wrestling fans have ever seen. Never before in the history of the NWA has any one champion weathered such challenges. It's an incredible thing to see.

"Flair's like a tree in the wind," Schiavone concluded. "That wind of challenge is blowing like a hurricane right now. And Flair's bending with that wind, he's being taken to those one-hour limits. But I don't think we're about to see that tree uprooted. Not for a long, long time to come." □



Garvin mounts the turnbuckles and puts his "Hands of Stone" to use (below). Twisting Garvin's left arm, the champ is careful to stay out of range of the right (top right). Flair, who is the recipient of an average of five two-counts in each title defense, attempts to pin his challenger (right).



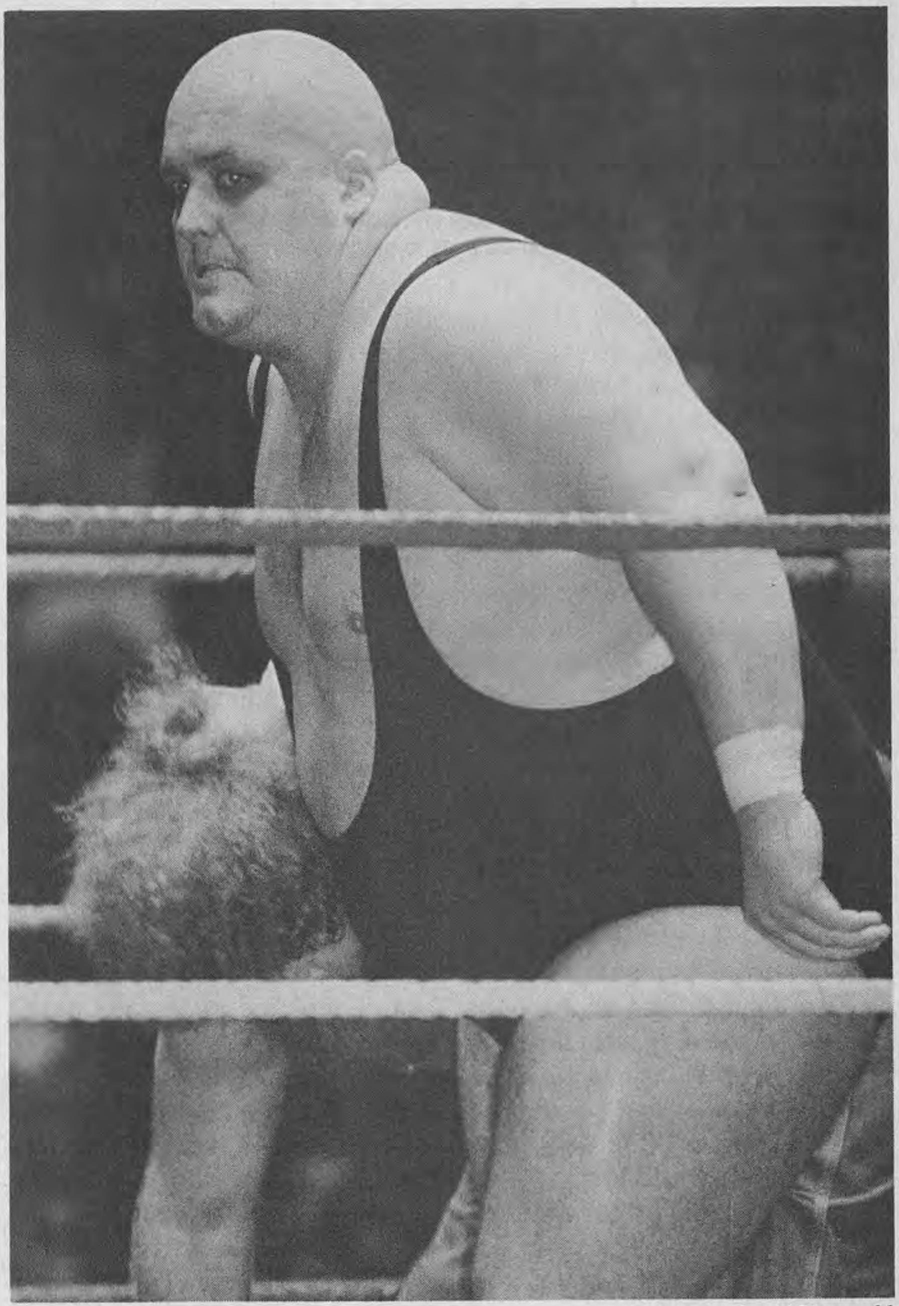
HOW KING KONG BUNDY BECAME THE WWF'S MOST HATED MAN

EVERY TIME HE hears the name, Genesee Pete crosses himself with his good hand and sticks his broom to the floor. Pete was there the night Rats Figueroa came after King Kong Bundy, and he'd rather sweep sand from the big casinos than ever think about that awful night, the night Bundy learned to hate.

It was a decade ago, and while Genesee Pete remembers what happened that grisly night in Atlantic City, he'll only talk in snips. The Bundy he describes bears little resemblance to the fiend wrestling today, the pale gargantuan with the stone face offset by two black and greedy insect eyes. Pete remembers the teenaged Bundy as a heavyset cherub with a smile and heart as big as his 50-inch waist.

The two worked the door at Rudy's, a quasi-respectable supper club and bar before the casinos muscled into town and sucked all the business. Atlantic City loves its sleaze, so Bundy was never at a loss for troublemaking bodies to pitch. But he did so in a gentle manner, assuring those drunkards who he tumbled to the pavement that they'd be welcomed back tomorrow.

Until he met up with Rats Figueroa sometime in 1976.



Photos by David Fitzgerald

The abominable tactics of King Kong Bundy have propelled the 448-pound rulebreaker to the stratosphere of the WWF, where the Atlantic City madman has redefined the art of destruction

Holding Hillbilly Jim's head still, Bundy will jab his eyes with his knuckles (above). King Kong, whose defensive skills are vastly overrated, crowds his opponent, not allowing him to extend his arms to get the full impact from his blows (right).

Rats was bad news. At 27, he had already served two three-year stretches at Rikers Island for aggravated assault. Packing 250 pounds into a 6'3" frame, Rats was scared of no man and liked to prove it. One night there was a disagreement.

"Bundy asked Rats to leave," Pete says haltingly. "Rats pulled a gun and stuck it down Bundy's throat. He said he'd be back later to finish the job."

"After Rats left, Bundy sat down out front and kept repeating one phrase—'no percentage in it,' 'no percentage in it.' I said to him, 'Bundy, what the hell you talking about?' He looked through me and repeated, 'no percentage in it.' Five minutes was all it took to freeze the kid's heart. It scared me to look at him, and I was his friend."

That's where Genesee Pete turns shellfish and clams up. Rats Figueroa? The bad man was never heard from again, giving rise to all sorts of hellish rumors, none of which can be substantiated.

Bundy continued working the door but was let go six months later for excessive fighting and brutality. Patrons became frightened of his foreboding countenance, his unforgiving scowl. Those whom he did throw out—and the numbers rose with alarming rapidity—often wound up in the hospital. Upon leaving, his boss said he didn't recognize him anymore. Bundy's glare told his boss he had said enough.

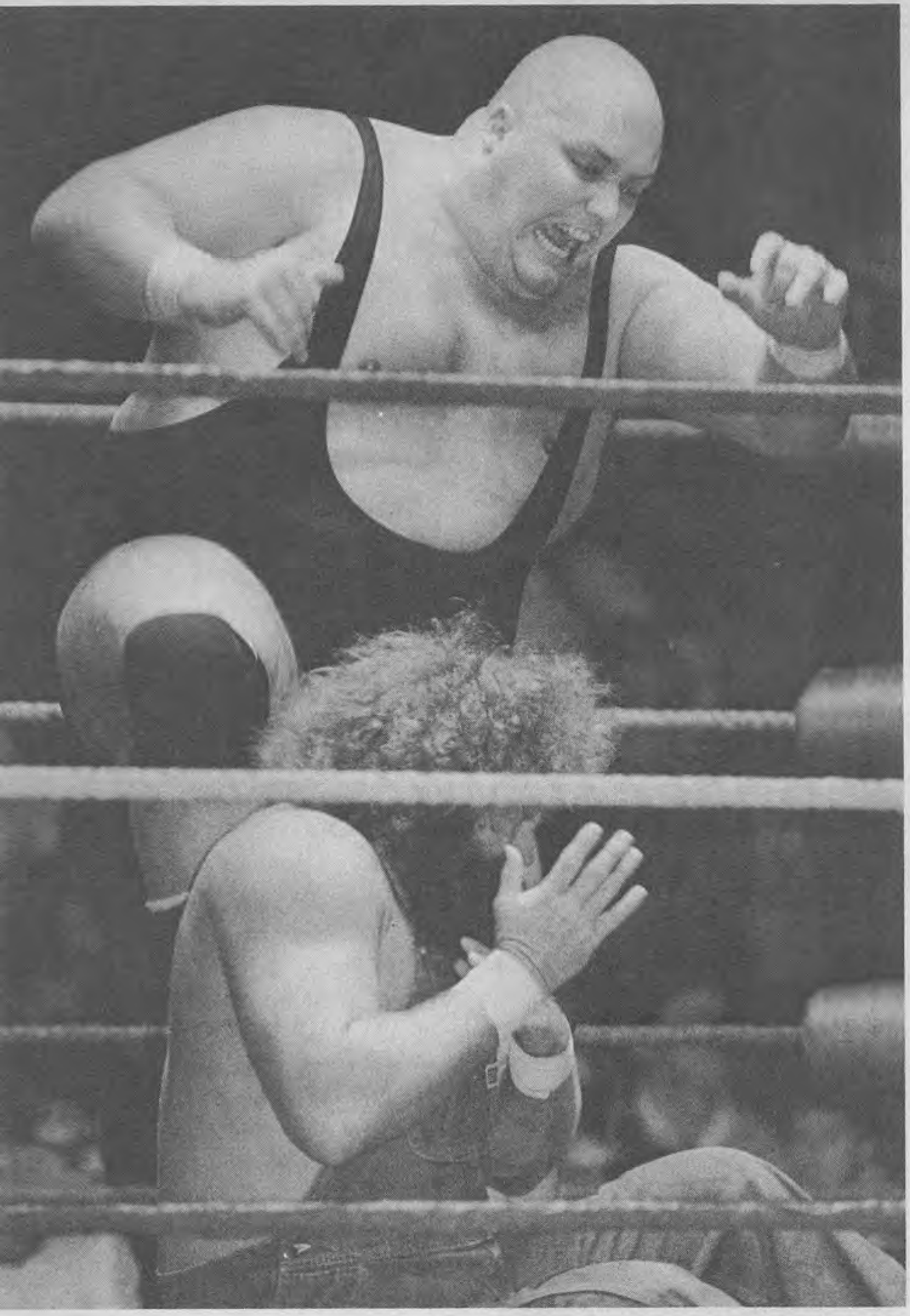
From Rudy's, Bundy traveled the Jersey Shore bar circuit, picking up bouncing jobs where he could, picking fights when he couldn't. One night, after a night of overzealous socializing, wrestling manager Gary Hart was the recipient of a brutal Bundy eviction. Struck by the size and ferocity of the bouncer, Hart returned with a wrestling contract. Bundy traded in his hourly wage for a pair of wrestling trunks and hasn't looked back since.

Five years later, Bundy finds himself the most vilified competitor in the WWF, possibly the most hated and despised grappler in the entire sport. After his twin avalanching of Hulk Hogan and Andre the Giant, Bundy's reputation for excessive brutality is secure; his voluminous stomach referred to secretly in the locker room as the "death knoll." None of which is news to Gary Hart.

"I knew the moment I laid eyes on him that Bundy would cause trouble," Hart said of his bald-domed counterpart. "There was a look to him that screamed: Look at me—I am your worst nightmare. He was a genius at inventing pain. A lot of people credit me for The Avalanche. Many think it was my idea for him to lay on opponents for five seconds. Believe me, I'd love to take the credit for those tactics. They speak of an eloquent brutality that I always aspire to, but they were all Bundy's—young Bundy's—idea. I love to imagine the tortures he'll think up next."

In a recent match against Hillbilly Jim, Bundy's sadistic wheels spun wildly. At one point, Bundy grabbed the Hillbilly by his considerable hair and burned him into the turnbuckle where he followed with four consecutive standup versions of the Avalanche. Jim collapsed like soggy Jell-O, easy prey for a pin, but Bundy had other thoughts. He dragged the Hillbilly to center ring and stood over him, his death's shadow bathing Jim in somber light.

Bundy smiled—there was something disquieting in that smile—a barracuda might smile like that. He bounced off the west-



A cringing Jim has no defense for Bundy's relentless attack (left). The Hillbilly will find his headbutt ineffective against the hard-headed Bundy (below).

ern ropes and, with consummate grace, leapt through the air. The question is: Can one weigh 448 pounds and not be considered fat? For Bundy soaring in midair was not burdened by his weight. All comparisons to Humpty Dumpty became obsolete upon the moment of impact, when Jim's breathing became a dull ebb, and the referee moved in to stop the bout.

With a sideward glance, Bundy pushed the official aside. He big splashed Jim three more times, each maneuver gaining in ferocity the more Jim's respiration slackened. It took manager Bobby Heenan to convince Bundy to pin his dormant opponent and end the debacle.

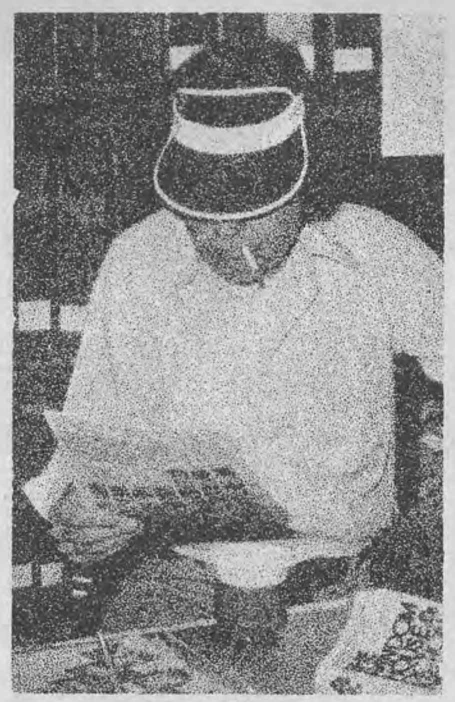
Genesee Pete claims Rats Figueroa taught Bundy to hate the night he stuck a Saturday Night Special down the youngster's throat. Paul Ellering pinpoints Bundy's change in attitude to the time the big man overheard Ellering say: "The Legion of Doom," which Bundy joined temporarily in 1982, "would go broke trying to feed the corpulent mound of flesh." This initiated the vicious feud between Bundy and The Road Warriors.

"Fighting us taught Bundy how to hate," Ellering says. "Hawk and Animal taught him the meaning of pain. It's a lesson he's never forgotten."

Others claim Bundy was born mean, and his latest assaults on Hulk Hogan, Hillbilly Jim, and Andre the Giant—and the broken ribs of dozens of unfortunate preliminary wrestlers—lends new credence to that theory.

Of particular menace is the manner Bundy articulates his destruction: Bundy is a self-educated madman, whose strident tongue unleashes threats his body invariably follows up. He has never yet failed to keep his deathly promises. As he unwittingly prophesied years ago, until he is able—if he is ever able—to exorcise the demons that guide his artless death dance, there is no percentage today in wrestling King Kong Bundy. He is out for the kill. □

MATT BROCK'S LOOKING BACK

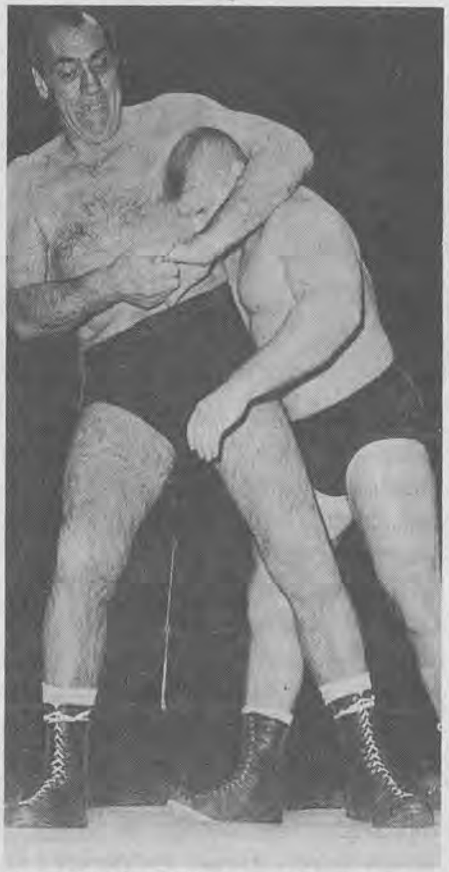


AUGUST 1960
CRUSHER LISOWSKI vs. PRIMO CARNERA

With the re-emergence of actor-boxer Mr. T into the wrestling world, Matt Brock is reminded of another boxer-actor turned wrestler, one whom our veteran reporter holds in much higher regard than the modern version.

MY FONDEST MEMORY of Primo Carnera is of the gap-toothed smile he'd withold until after the inteviews, after the shower and rubdown, after his entourage assembled and could retreat in cheery confusion to his regular table, next to the clangor of the bocci court, at Il Vagabando's on 61 St.

There, warmed by Chianti, and smelling faintly of *canalloni*, Carnera, surrounded by his dozen closest friends and a dozen more caught up in the bandwagon's momentum, would relax into a wide smile, teeth splaying out in all directions, and relive the knockout in the punctured North Italian dialect reporters loved to question.



Dwarfed by the 6'6'' Carnera, Crusher struggles to free himself from a headlock.

There was no celebration the night of June 14, 1934. Carnera took his supper through a straw that night, after Maxie Baer, outweighed by 54 pounds, knocked Da Preem down 11 times en route to an eight-round knockout and the World heavyweight championship. I couldn't shake the thought that Carnera's face, bathed as it was in sweat and blood, reminded me of the nights when the victory parties swept into the a.m., and Carnera's forbidding countenance disappeared into the red sauce of his *spaghetti marinara*.

Carnera never recovered from the beating Baer administered to him that spring night, and although he boxed until after the War, three straight losses to journeyman puncher Luigi Musina in 1946 convinced Carnera to retire the gloves, to the relief and delight of his fans. Carnera's imposing physique made him a natural for the gangster mov-

ies of the era, and a successful Hollywood career beckoned.

I silently applauded the smooth transition Carnera made from ring to screen, glad to see a man who brought such happiness to thousands of fans, would now hunker down to a peaceful, suburban life.

Carnera's career as a professional wrestler began quitely enough: a few assignments as a special referee and then a few scattered special appearances against minor nobodies. Harmless, I thought at the time.

I was in Chicago, on stringer assignment for the *Long Island Revu*, when I the *Chicago Tribune* informed me that on this August night in 1960, legendary Crusher Lisowski would be wrestling the former heavyweight boxing champion of the world, Primo Carnera. I picked my jaw up from off the floor and got right on the horn to *The Revu. The Revu's* sports editor and I had some heated battles over the placement of wrestling stories in the past, but never had I covered anything potentially this big.

"It ain't news, dammit," the editor shocked me with. "Carnera's a has-been. Now get me that Ernie Banks interview."

"Get it yourself, flunky, and then get stuffed," I replied, hastening a departure that was imminent anyway.

I needed a good drunk to get me through this day and found a little bar on Lake Shore Dr. most obliging. Although Carnera had been wrestling at infrequent intervals, he had never met an opponent in the class of Crusher Lisowski. Having not seen Carnera in over five years, I stumbled into the Amphitheatre expecting the worst kind of carnage. A punch drunk, pot-bellied Primo Carnera sacrificing what little cognizance he had left for a thousand buck payday. Along with Killer Kowalski and his buddy Bruiser, Crusher was the most feared man in wrestling.

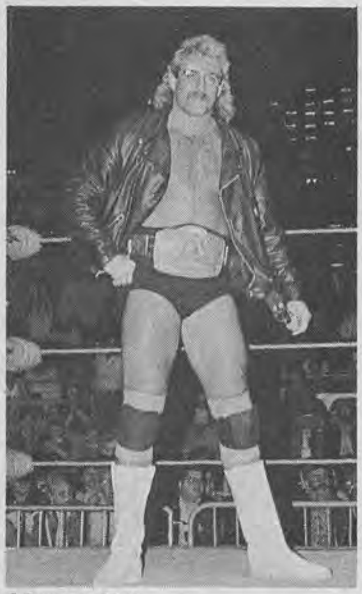
The sold-out arena gave Carnera the benefit of their cheers this night, and when he strode to the ring, as imperially as he had 26 years before, my jaw dropped for the second time. Carnera looked as trim and muscular as he had in his boxing prime. His gait was alert, his reflexes in order, and his desire, his hunger for victory, brought tears of recognition to my eyes. Still, Crusher was a professional neckbreaker and Carnera's matches had been few and far between.

Apparently, Crusher, who would go on to claim the AWA World championship three years later, was caught completely off-guard. The match wasn't even close. Later that night, in the back of *Cairo's*, a little Italian joint tucked away on State St., Carnera broke into a feverish grin, describing to the 20 of us exactly how the knockout punch came about. □

Crusher obviously underestimated the former boxing champion and did not prepare correctly for the match. Carnera unleashes his famous right cross, stunning the veteran wrestler (above). Da Preem drags Crusher to his feet (below).

OFFI WRESTLIN

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.



Magnum T.A.

TOP10

1—RIC FLAIR
NWA World champion
243, Minneapolis, MN

2—HULK HOGAN
WWF World champion
302, Venice Beach, CA

3—STAN HANSEN
AWA World champion
322, Borger, TX

4—MAGNUM T.A.
U.S. champion
245, Chesapeake, VA

5—RANDY SAVAGE
Intercontinental champion
245, Sarasota, FL

6—KERRY VON ERICH
No. 1 contender: World Class title
260, Denton, TX

7—DUSTY RHODES
No 1 contender: National title
302, Austin, TX

8—NIKITA KOLOFF
No. 4 contender: NWA title
275, Moscow, Russia

9—RICK RUDE
World Class champion
246, Robbinsdale, MN

10—BRUISER BRODY
No. 3 contender: AWA title
284, Albuquerque, NM

TAG TEAMS

1—THE ROAD WARRIORS
No. 1 contenders to AWA and NWA World tag team titles
Combined weight: 567 pounds

2—DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 472 pounds

3—GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE
WWF World tag team champions
Combined weight: 511 pounds

4—SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNIG
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 525 pounds

5—DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 461 pounds

6—RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 453 pounds

7—IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF
No. 3 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 524 pounds

8—STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE
No. 1 contenders to vacant U.S. tag team title
Combined weight: 499 pounds

9—TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON
No. 1 contenders to Mid-Southern tag team title
Combined weight: 462 pounds

10—LUKE WILLIAMS & BUTCH MILLER
UWF tag team champions
Combined weight: 455 pounds

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

1—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA

2—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

3—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec

4—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia

5—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

6—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX

7—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY

8—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL

9—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX

10—BILLY JACK HAYNES
245, Portland, OR

AWA

World Champion:
STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX

1—SGT. SLAUGHTER
310, Parris Island, SC

2—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec

3—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM

4—NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA

5—SCOTT HALL
290, Minneapolis, MN

6—LARRY ZBYSZKO
248, Pittsburgh, PA

7—NORD THE BARBARIAN
316, parts unknown

8—BORIS ZUKHOV
254, Leningrad, Russia

9—MARTY JANNETTY
224, Columbus, GA

10—GREG GAGNE
220, Robbinsdale, MN

WWF

World Champion:
HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA

1—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL

2—KING KONG BUNDY
446, Atlantic City, NJ

3—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI

4—JUNKYARD DOG
260, New Orleans, LA

5—PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL

6—TERRY FUNK
247, Amarillo, TX

7—MAGNIFICENT MURACO
274, Sunset Beach, HA

8—JESSE VENTURA
270, Muscle Beach, CA

9—TITO SANTANA
245, Mission, TX

10—ADRIAN ADONIS
303, New York, NY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

1—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA

2—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

4—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec

5—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia

6—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL

7—ARN ANDERSON
239, Minneapolis, MN

8—KONGA THE BARBARIAN
265, Chicago, IL

9—BARON VON RASCHKE
271, East Germany

10—BLACK BART
301, Houston, TX

CIAL
G RATINGS

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WORLD CLASS

1—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
2—BRIAN ADIDAS
238, Denton, TX
3—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
4—KEVIN VON ERICH
239, Denton, TX
5—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM
6—LANCE VON ERICH
260, Dallas, TX
7—THE MISSING LINK
273, parts unknown
8—THE GRAPPLER
241, parts unknown
9—ICEMAN PARSONS
242, St. Louis, MO
10—STEVE REGAL
238, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

UWF

1—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY
2—DICK SLATER
235, Tampa, FL
3—DICK MURDOCH
270, Waxahachie, TX
4—TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL
5—BUZZ SAWYER
240, St. Petersburg, FL
6—STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Tulsa, OK
7—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NB
8—MASKED SUPERSTAR
282, parts unknown
9—TARRAS BULBA
237, Outer Mongolia
10—BRETT SAWYER
242, St. Petersburg, FL

FLORIDA

1—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL
2—KENDALL WINDHAM
220, Sweetwater, TX
3—JESSE BARR
243, Portland, OR
4—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
5—KEVIN SULLIVAN
239, Boston, MA
6—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
310, Sweetwater, TX
7—THE CUBAN ASSASSIN
236, Cuba
8—TYREE PRIDE
231, Haiti
9—MAHA SINGH
273, Tampa, FL
10—MIKE GRAHAM
229, Tampa, FL

MID-SOUTHERN

1—BILL DUNDEE
214, Melbourne, Australia
2—BUDDY LANDELL
236, Los Angeles, CA
3—DUTCH MANTEL
242, Bucksnorth, TN
4—AUSTIN IDOL
240, Las Vegas, NV
5—ABDUL KHADAFY
265, Libya
6—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN
7—DIRTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
8—JOS LeDUC
280, Godbout, Quebec
9—BILLY TRAVIS
225, Lexington, KY
10—PAT ROSE
232, Atlanta, GA

CONTINENTAL

1—EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET
227, South Wales
2—BRAD ARMSTRONG
226, Marietta, GA
3—JERRY STUBBS
235, Pensacola, FL
4—THE BULLET
234, parts unknown
5—TOMMY RICH
232, Hendersonville, TN
6—ROBERT FULLER
238, Dyresburg, TN
7—JOHNNY RICH
238, Hendersonville, TN
8—JIMMY GOLDEN
234, Montgomery, AL
9—TIM HORNER
235, Morristown, TN
10—TOM PRITCHARD
220, Houston, TX

NORTHWEST

1—BOBBY JAGGERS
265, Dunlap, KS
2—TOM ZENK
237, Robbinsdale, MN
3—RIP OLIVER
245, Tampa, FL
4—BILLY JACK HAYNES
245, Portland
5—THE ASSASSIN
249, parts unknown
6—BRADY BOONE
236, Charlotte, NC
7—MIKE MILLER
260, Memphis, TN
8—SCOTT DORING
255, Minneapolis, MN
9—MOONDOG MORETTI
245, Boise, ID
10—COCOA SAMOA
239, Samoa

MOST POPULAR

1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA
2—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
4—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
5—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
6—JUNKYARD DOG
260, New Orleans, LA
7—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec
8—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
9—KEVIN VON ERICH
239, Denton, TX
10—TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL

MOST HATED

1—KING KONG BUNDY
446, Atlantic City, NJ
2—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
3—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
4—STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX
5—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX
6—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
7—NIKITA KOLOFF
276, Moscow, Russia
8—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL
9—ADRIAN ADONIS
303, New York, NY
10—DICK SLATER
235, Tampa, FL

For period ended March 26, 1986

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Another new category—sort of: When you look at the ratings on the previous two pages, you'll notice a category that's unfamiliar to you: UWF.

That stands for Universal Wrestling Federation, and it's simply another name for what you've known all along as the Mid-South area.

"The name change is a logical extension of recent developments in the promotion of Mid-South wrestling," explained UWF executive Ken Mantell, who came to the organization from the World Class recently. "The Mid-South television program has been reaching more and more markets than ever before in the United States, we've gained a few foreign markets, and we're negotiating to expand into many, many more over the next few months. We also will be entering into a series of co-promotions in 1986 and 1987 with Jim Crockett Promotions and several Japanese promoters."

Bill Watts

"The name change reflects more of the global attitude that Mid-South has developed," said UWF President Bill Watts. "Look, I've lived and breathed Mid-South for years and years, but let's face it: When you hear the words 'Mid-South' you think of Louisiana, Oklahoma, and that area of the country. Now that'll always be my home, but Mid-South wrestling grew to a point where it became more than just the Mid-South area of the country. 'Universal Wrestling Federation' reflects our forward-thinking attitude and the large strides we've made.

"I can understand that the fans may find UWF a little tough to get used to at first, but once they do they'll better understand our goals and aspirations. What are those? Hey—we're not looking to take over the wrestling world or anything. We're just out to give the fans the best possible cards and matches possible. And that's the bottom line to us: the fans. They're the ones who'll really benefit from what the UWF does over the years to come."

Tag team ridiculousness: Sometimes we find ourselves at the mercy of wrestling commissions around the country. Look at the tag team ratings. No fewer than *six* of the teams rated are contender teams rather than championship teams. The tag team situation these days is a shambles. The U.S. tag team title, the National tag team title, and the World Class tag team title—three major doubles championships to be sure—are all vacant, and have been for some time.

We're not saying that a championship automatically qualifies one for a rating. Not at all. There are still plenty of ratable teams out there, and perhaps a few of this issue's contenders may soon fill those three vacancies. But the fact that the ratings do include so many contenders is yet another reflection of the chaos and disorganization that clearly surrounds those titles.

What they think: From time to time, "Ratings Analysis" talks to several individuals about their relative standings in the various ratings categories.

Tully Blanchard

Tully Blanchard *is rated number two in the NWA, number two in the World Championship area, and fifth in Most Hated. He is not rated in the Top 10:* "Look, you're mainly asking me if I feel slighted about my Top 10 rating, or lack thereof, right? Mainly since Nikita Koloff, a number four contender to the NWA title, I believe, is rated there and I'm not? No, I really don't care, to be honest. I'm right on schedule for where I want to be and what I want to be doing in 1986, and TB Enterprises is thriving right now. What does bother me a bit, though, is the fact that the walking embarrassment to professional wrestling, Dusty Rhodes, a *contender* to my National title, is rated in the Top 10 before I am. I don't feel the need to be rated there, personally, but I do find it a deep insult that Rhodes is there before I am. If he's going to be rated, then I should be rated at least two or three notches above him."

Rick Rude

Rick Rude *is rated number nine in the Top 10, number one in the World Class area by virtue of his World Class championship, and number six in the Most Hated category:* "Why should I be number nine in the Top 10 and that candy-faced Kerry Von Erich is number six? Von Erich is eating my dust all through the World Class area. He wants my title so bad he can taste it. But you know something? He's not going to get it. Not now, not ever. I've proven my superiority over everyone so many times, I think that the ratings in your magazine are simply a sham, and a pandering to the fans. There's no other explanation."

Billy Jack Haynes *is rated number 10 in the NWA and number four in the Pacific Northwest area, where his cousin* **Brady Boone** *is rated number six:* "I'm really glad to see Brady moving up the ratings like this. He's a good kid, he's coming along in the sport, and he's going to be a big star someday soon. It's really a matter of family pride here. I'm proud as anything to see Brady doing so well, and I'm sure my dad and the rest of our family is just as proud."

The address for mail: That's what *they* think; what do *you* think? We want to know. Send your comments about "Ratings Analysis" and this issue's ratings to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler;* Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

to earn the title of manager? She doesn't bark out commands or advice like a competent manager must. In fact, her involvement seems limited to the smile she perpetually lavishes upon Savage—pretty yes, but hardly useful against Hulk Hogan or Tito Santana.

Let Elizabeth serve Hogan, a perfect marriage of pretty faces who do nothing. Under Fuji's guidance, Savage could team with Magnificent Muraco and turn the wrestling world upside down.

CHESTER RITTER
Dover, DE

OUTRAGE

I can't believe what I just watched on television. The Haiti Kid had just scored a magnificent pinfall over Butch Cassidy when he was yanked from the ring by Roddy Piper and Boxing Bob Orton and dragged into "Piper's Pit." A brief interrogation revealed that The Kid was pulling for Mr. T in his upcoming boxing match against Piper at WrestleMania 2. It took courage to stand by his choice in the face of such obvious danger, and I applaud The Haiti Kid's integrity. What followed was the most abominable turn of events since Piper Pearl Harbored Jimmy Snuka with a coconut a year and a half ago. Piper and Orton took exception to The Kid's affiliation and began *beating the midget up.*

The act itself doesn't shock me. Piper and Orton are known lepers; they're acts of cowardice and subterfuge are notoriously documented. So for them to pounce upon a helpless dwarf, however awful, is not surprising.

What I'm outraged by is the absence of any sort of resuce attempt. When Hulk Hogan or The Junkyard Dog are double-teamed at risk of injury, half the free world comes stormtrooping to their aid. Yet, here, as the dimunitive Kid was being vio-

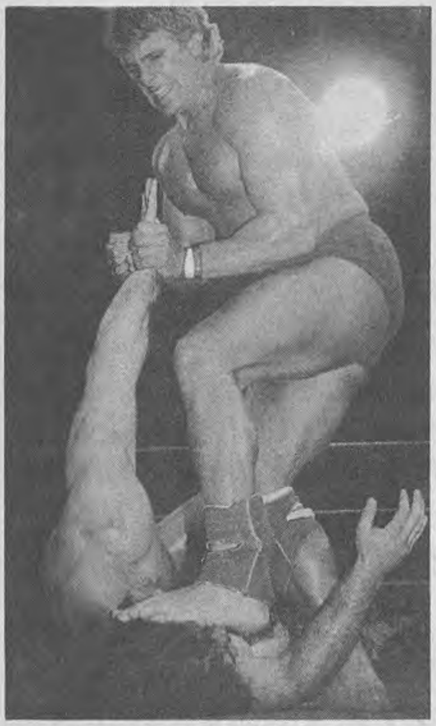
lated, nary a good guy grappler saw fit to come to his rescue. In the name of humanity, *not a single wrestler would save the helpless midget.* I can see them now in the dressing room, watching the TV monitors and probably getting a big kick out of the whole grotesque incident.

Remember, you big galoots, but for the juggling of genes, there go you. What you allowed happen to The Haiti Kid will be played out upon your own lives tenfold. We are our brother's keepers, be that brother 6'3" or 3'6". If we can only help the big names, are we really any help at all?

NEAL RICHARDSON
St. Thomas, VI

LIKES LANCE A LOT

Lance Von Erich saved the Von Erich family and they should be eternally grateful. Before Lance's arrival, Kerry was stuck in a hopeless rut,

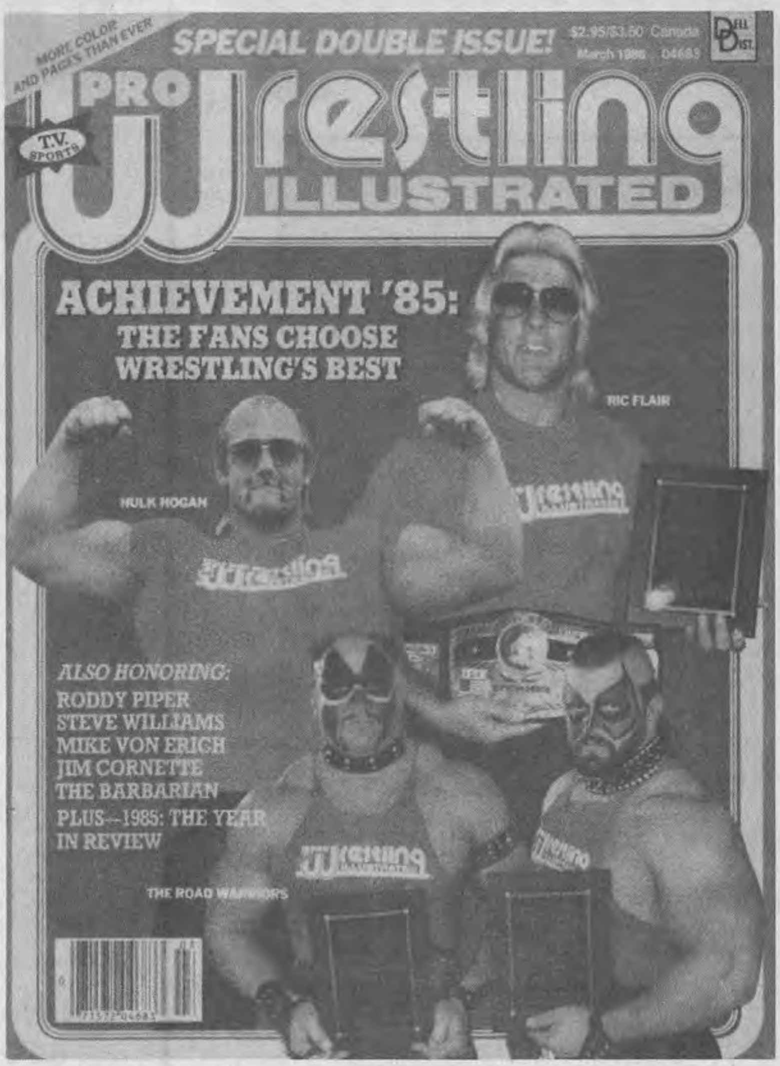


Lance Von Erich (battling Rick Rude) has had only positive effects on the Von Erich family, points out Skeeter Bizdorf.

battling a series of meaningless wars against One Man Gang, while his brother Kevin sank deeper and deeper into the muck of his feud against Chris Adams. Lance infused new blood into the family, lit a spark under their tails.

(Continued on page 49)

A SECOND CHANCE TO CATCH "THE BIG ONE"



The year-end issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* is always the most anticipated wrestling magazine of the year. And the 1985 year-end issue (March 1986 cover date) was the best one we ever published. At 92 pages, it was our biggest magazine ever and, in addition to the year-end features *PWI* readers have come to expect, it contained eight full-color pages. We have limited supplies of this newsstand sell-out, so don't be disappointed twice. Order your copy today. Only $5.00.

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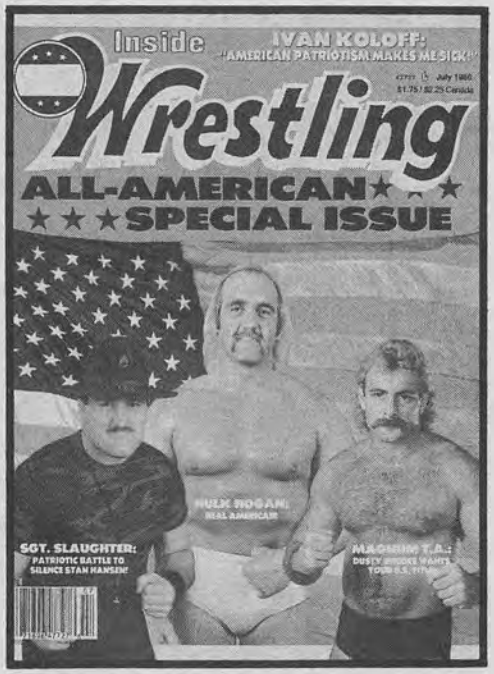
Inside Wrestling



*** SPECIAL ALL-AMERICAN ISSUE! ***

Star-Spangled WWF champion **HULK HOGAN**—A Real American!

Warning to **MAGNUM T.A.**: **DUSTY RHODES** wants your U.S. title!

SGT. SLAUGHTER'S patriotic battle against **STAN HANSEN**!

PLUS . . .
IVAN KOLOFF is featured in an exclusive "Hotseat" interview: "American patriotism makes me sick!" . . . **ROAD WARRIOR ANIMAL** and **KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV** square off "One on One" . . . **RICK RUDE** turns back another **VON ERICH** and boasts: "Against all odds, I'm still champion!"

All this and much more . . .
in the July 1986 issue of
Inside Wrestling

ON SALE NOW!

Pro Wrestling Illustrated

Learn all about the emotional tug-of-war that threatens to destroy "Macho Man" **RANDY SAVAGE**

It's two legends at the crossroads as the up-and-coming **LEX LUGAR** tackles the perennial ringmaster **HARLEY RACE**

PLUS . . .
A sensational full-color pinup of **DUSTY RHODES** . . . Did you win **THE ROAD WARRIORS** contest? Find out who did in this issue! . . . Learn why a match between **TULLY BLANCHARD** and **RIC FLAIR** will never take place . . . An in-depth press conference with **RICK RUDE** . . . Exclusive *PWI* "Scouting Reports"

All this and much more . . .
in the August 1986 issue of
Pro Wrestling Illustrated

ON SALE MAY 20!

YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 47)

The story about the family in the May 1986 *The Wrestler* ("Is Lance Coming Between Kevin And Kerry?") couldn't be further from the truth. The Von Erich family works in harmony toward the same set of goals; none of the petty jealousies that exist in other families will be found at its hearth. They buoy each other toward success and will continue to do so for years to come.

SKEETER BIZDORF
Ft. Worth, TX

ROCK 'N' ROLL FOREVER

I am in complete agreement with Lisa Landry, who wrote in the May '86 issue of *The Wrestler* that she would like to see more written about The Rock 'n' Roll Express. I'll go one step further and recommend that you devote an entire magazine to the Ricky Morton and Robert Gibson. They are the most popular duo in the sport today, and soon they will recapture the NWA World title, which Jim Cornette stole from them. They blow all the Von Erichs, Ric Flairs, and Magnum T.A.s clear out of the water. More rock, less schlock, that's what I say. How bout it, guys?

ANN SIMMONS
Hope Mills, NC ☐

Rick Morton and Robert Gibson are worthy of an entire magazine's worth of coverage, insists Ann Simmons.

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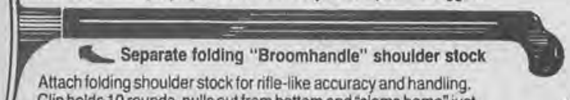

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

was outraged because he had demanded that Slater defend the title, and he had in his possession at the time a blank contract for that very purpose.

Watts handed Slater the contract and told him to fill in the blanks. Slater relented, saying that he trusted Watts. Big mistake. As Watts went off to complete the contract, Slater's valet, **Dark Journey**, suggested that perhaps Slater should have filled in the contract himself.

When the contract was produced, Sawyer's opponent was named as **Hacksaw Duggan**—but the blank where the title should have read "television title" now read "North American title." Sawyer lost the North American title to Duggan, and Slater was outraged. In effect, he had lost two titles in one day—and never wrestled in defense of either of them! Dark Journey, perhaps disgusted with Slater's carelessness, has mysteriously disappeared from the UWF area.

Also at that same television taping in Oklahoma City, **The Sheepherders** captured the UWF tag team titles from **Steve Williams** and **Ted DiBiase.**

A few more title changes as we go to press: **Brad Armstrong** defeated **Robert Fuller** to capture the vacant Continental title . . . **Brian Adidas** won the World Class Texas title from **The Grappler** in Ft. Worth . . . **Bobby Jaggers** is the new Pacific Northwest heavyweight champion, having defeated **Tom Zenk** for the belt in Findley, Washington . . . **Black Bart** defeated **Sam Houston** for the Mid-Atlantic title.

Can **Randy Savage** become the first man in history to hold both the WWF Intercontinental title and the WWF World championship at the same time? That's what "The Macho Man" intends to do, but

George Steele might be standing in the path of Randy Savage's goal to simultaneously hold the WWF Intercontinental and World titles.

oddsmakers are claiming he'll lose the Intercontinental belt before he gets another series of matches with **Hulk Hogan**. The reason? Savage's preoccupation with protecting his manager, **Elizabeth**, from the amorous advances of **George Steele** may well erode his concentration during important title defenses.

Jake "The Snake" Roberts has looked impressive in his initial series of matches in the WWF, and has added a giant live snake (now identified as a boa constrictor) to his ring attire. Roberts brings the snake to the ring in a large canvas bag, and leaves it on the ring apron during the match. After stunning his opponent with the DDT, Roberts scores a hasty pin and drapes the boa over the man. Reportedly, this bizarre postmatch ritual has made it difficult for Roberts to secure many matches against top-flight opponents.

Six-time NWA World heavyweight champion **Lou Thesz** has been hired as Chief Commissioner and Administrator for Texas All-Star Wrestling. Thesz has no plans to referee matches at this time, but reports that he will be spending all his time in the Texas All-Star area "making sure that every wrestler, whether rulebreaker or fan favorite, receives a fair shake." Lately, **Bruiser Brody** has been complain-

(Continued on page 52)

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 51)

The Ninja and Kendo Nagasaki have united to form one of the most dangerous combinations in the sport. Manager Sir Oliver Humperdink has signed them to a series of matches against the Windhams and The Fabulous Ones.

ing of biased officiating in the area; no doubt Brody and his manager **Gary Hart** will be the first men waiting at Thesz's office each morning!

Speaking of Brody, the New Mexico wildman recently scored a decision over **Ric Flair** in a Kansas City tag team cage match that saw Brody and **Harley Race** square off against Flair and **Bob Brown**. The match was the main event of a card of wrestling called "Caged Fury" . . . **Mr. Wrestling II** is feuding with **The Bullet** in mask vs. mask matches throughout the Continental area. Mr. Wrestling II was unmasked, but his face was quickly covered by **Robert Fuller**, **Ron Fuller**, **Jerry Stubbs**, and **Jim Golden** . . . **Rip Oliver** sustained three bruised ribs in a match against **Jimmy Snuka**, and has been rendered unable to defend his half of the Pacific Northwest tag team title (co-held by **Bobby Jaggers**). As a result, **The Assassin** has obtained power of attorney and will be defending Oliver's portion of the title until "The Crippler" is fully healed.

The team of **Kendo Nagasaki** and **The Ninja**, managed in Florida by **Sir Oliver Humperdink**, are feuding with **The Fabulous Ones** and with **Kendall** and **Barry Windham** . . . **Chris Adams** has returned to Texas, but is not wrestling. He appears at matches occasionally and has been spotted shaking hands with fans from time to time. The medical outlook: full blindness in the left eye, and 40-60 percent vision in his right eye.

And that's what's happening. See you at the matches! □

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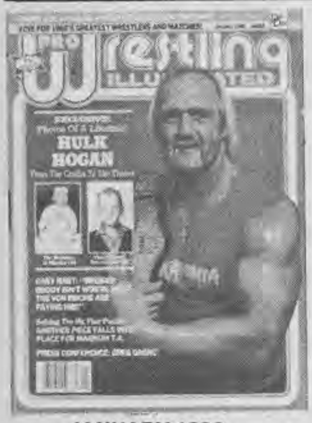

JANUARY 1986

July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. PLUS: Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koloff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. PLUS: Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel, AWA Sheiks.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

December 1982/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Albano.

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February 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. PLUS: Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

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FEBRUARY 1986

January 1984/COLOR POSTER: Harley Race. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

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September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The *PWI* Years.

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. PLUS: Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

December 1984/COLOR POSTER: Kerry Von Erich. Cover story: Barry Windham. PLUS: Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.

January 1985/COLOR POSTER: Tito Santana. Cover story: Road Warriors. PLUS: Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR POSTER: Magnum T.A. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

March 1985/SPECIAL YEAR-END AWARDS ISSUE! FOUR PAGE COLOR SECTION: Billy Jack, Roddy Piper, Ric Flair vs. Kerry Von Erich; PLUS: 1984—The Year In Review.

April 1985/COLOR POSTER: Ronnie Garvin. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

May 1985/COLOR POSTER: Road Warriors. SPECIAL TAG TEAM ISSUE! Cover story: Fabulous Ones & Rock 'n' Roll Express. PLUS: Windham & Rotundo, Von Erich & Billy Haynes, *PWI* Rates Top 15 teams.

June 1985/COLOR POSTER: Barry Windham. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. PLUS: Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, Magnum T.A.

July 1985/COLOR POSTER: Sgt. Slaughter. Cover story: Hogan vs. Piper. PLUS: Road Warriors, One Man Gang, Magnum T.A., Martel.

August 1985/COLOR POSTER: Rock 'n' Roll Express. Cover story: Von Erichs. PLUS: Slaughter, Hogan, NWA scouting reports.

September 1985/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Magnum T.A. PLUS: Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR POSTER: Chris Adams. Cover story: Steamboat. PLUS: Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

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December 1985/COLOR POSTER: Jesse Ventura. Cover story: Great American Bash. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

January 1986/COLOR POSTER: Hacksaw Duggan. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Magnum T.A., Brody, Gagne.

February 1986/COLOR POSTER: Nikita Koloff. Cover story: Mike Von Erich, The Road Warriors. PLUS: Tito Santana, Terry Taylor, Barbarian, Harley Race.

April 1986/COLOR POSTER: Ric Flair. Cover story: Wendi Richter. PLUS: Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

May 1986/COLOR POSTER: Rick Steamboat. Cover story: Road Warriors. PLUS: Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.

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CORRESPONDENTS

(Continued from page 10)

challenger Tommy Rich's forehead.

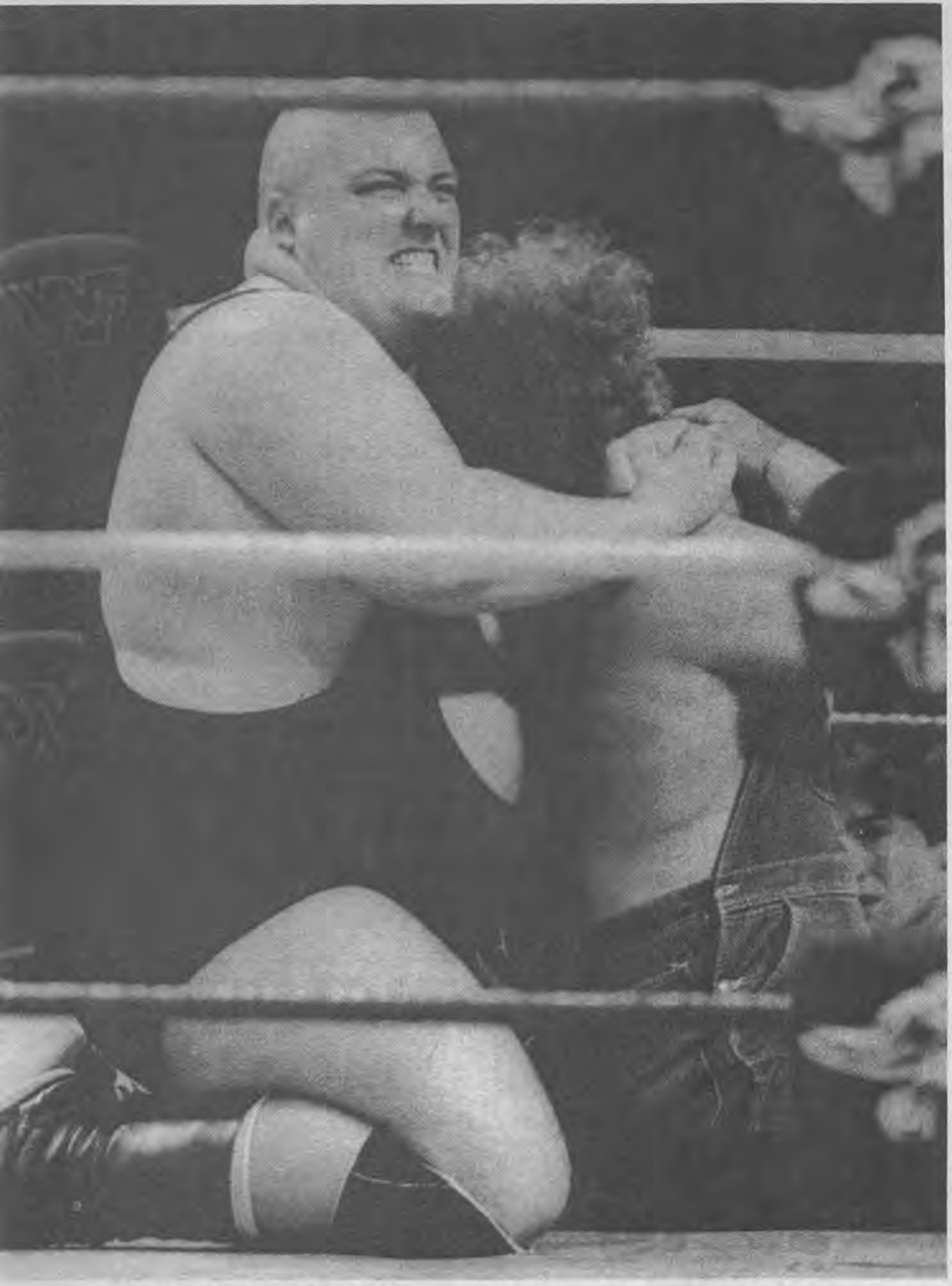
The first 12 minutes offered a textbook display of technical wrestling. Rich and Flair exchanged armbars, armdrags, figure-four locks and reversals, and the sold-out crowd applauded the grapplers' prowess. Rich had Flair in various pinning combinations, but the champ always managed to reach the ropes or kick out.

The end appeared to come in the middle of a brutal flurry of punches and kicks. Flair used the ropes for leverage to pin Rich's shoulders, but Rich managed to turn one shoulder and barely avoid the three-count. Rich then controlled the tempo, setting up Flair for a vertical bodypress—the identical move he used five years ago to capture the World title from Harley Race—but Flair caught him and dumped him throat-first over the top rope, and ended his challenge.

In other bouts: The Bullet & Steve Armstrong defeated Lucious Robert Fuller & Jerry Stubbs . . . Exotic Adrian Street pinned Norvel Austin . . . Johnny Rich defeated Nightmare I . . . Roberto Soto beat Big Boomer Lynch . . . Tim Horner defeated Nightmare II.

Hershey Park, PA *(Correspondent*—Todd Miller): Mayhem ruled the roost when King Kong Bundy met Hillbilly Jim in this grudge match in Chocolateland. Bundy, a romantic at heart judging from all the Hershey's Kisses he appears to have swallowed, was surprised by Jim's immediate offensive. Jim pummeled Bundy with headbutts and headlocks, sending the Atlantic City giant tumbling to the mat like a pair of dice.

Bundy retaliated with several massive elbowsmashes and



King Kong Bundy grits his teeth as he applies a rear chinlock against Hillbilly Jim. Anybody who is in any way associated with Hulk Hogan is treated to the full extent of Bundy's hatred for the WWF champion.

chops to Jim's mid-section, blows that knocked the Mud Lick clear out of the Hillbilly. Showing incredible resiliency, Jim rallied and troubled Bundy with a flying elbowsmash of his own. He whipped Bundy into the turnbuckles and followed with a competent dropkick. Jim rolled Bundy over like a turtle for the pin, but the giant managed to kick out.

Jim whipped him again into the turnbuckle, only this time he was reversed. Bundy used the Hillbilly's momentum against him, hurling him into the ringpost with megaforce.

One avalanche was all that Bundy needed to end this workday. Jim lay in the ring for several minutes after the match and needed to be helped to the dressing room.

In other bouts: Cpl. Kirschner defeated Nikolai Volkoff by disqualification ... George Steele defeated The Iron Sheik ... George Wells beat Ron Shaw ... Dan Spivey defeated Iron Mike Sharpe ... Barry O drew with Jose Luis Rivera ... Siva Afi defeated Rene Goulet. □

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YOU ASKED US

(Continued from page 12)

Dundee happen to be friends of mine. The dizzy dame is probably a Jerry Lawler groupie. Lawler is nothing but a goat-sucking buttface and one day I'll tell him that with my fist. Sometimes I'd like to smack the fans as much as I do my opponents."

***

Q: "I heard that Verne Gagne would be wrestling again. Is this true?"—Luke Redford, Altoona, PA

A: Yes, indeed, the legendary AWA champion was scheduled to make a comeback at the WrestleRock '86 card in Minneapolis. "But it's just a one-shot comeback," Gagne told us. "I just want to taste some active competition once more. I feel I can still hold my own with anyone. I believe I've forgotten more than most active wrestlers have ever learned."

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Verne Gagne, whose feud with Nick Bockwinkel consumed much of his career, is scheduled to appear at WrestleRock '86.

Waldo Von Erich, the father of Lance Von Erich, and Dusty Rhodes battle in a Texas bullrope match during the mid-1970s. Waldo and his cousin Fritz are not on the best of terms, but they do speak on occasion.

Q: "Is there any truth to the rumor that Lance Von Erich's father, Waldo, and Kerry Von Erich's father, Fritz, haven't spoken to one another for more than 20 years? I heard that the two brothers hated each other as if they were sworn enemies."—Les Gelhorn, Dallas, TX

A: Fritz Von Erich replies: "Waldo and I had a severe falling out some years back when I decided to become a strictly scientific wrestler and he remained a hated rulebreaker. But no, I don't believe we hate each other. And while we don't see each other very often, we do speak every now and then. I think we're both very proud of Lance's progress in the World Class area."

***

Q: "At one time, when Terry Funk was the NWA champion and Bruno Sammartino was the WWF champion, there was talk of a title vs. title bout between the two. I realize that this never came about. But I was wondering if Bruno and Funk would wrestle each other today, since both men are currently in the WWF."—Elise Ferringetti, Brooklyn, NY

A: According to our WWF sources, there are no plans at the present time to match the two ex-champions. □

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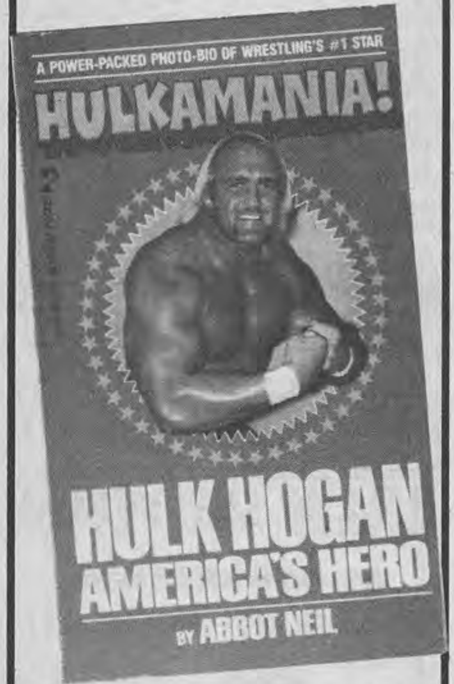

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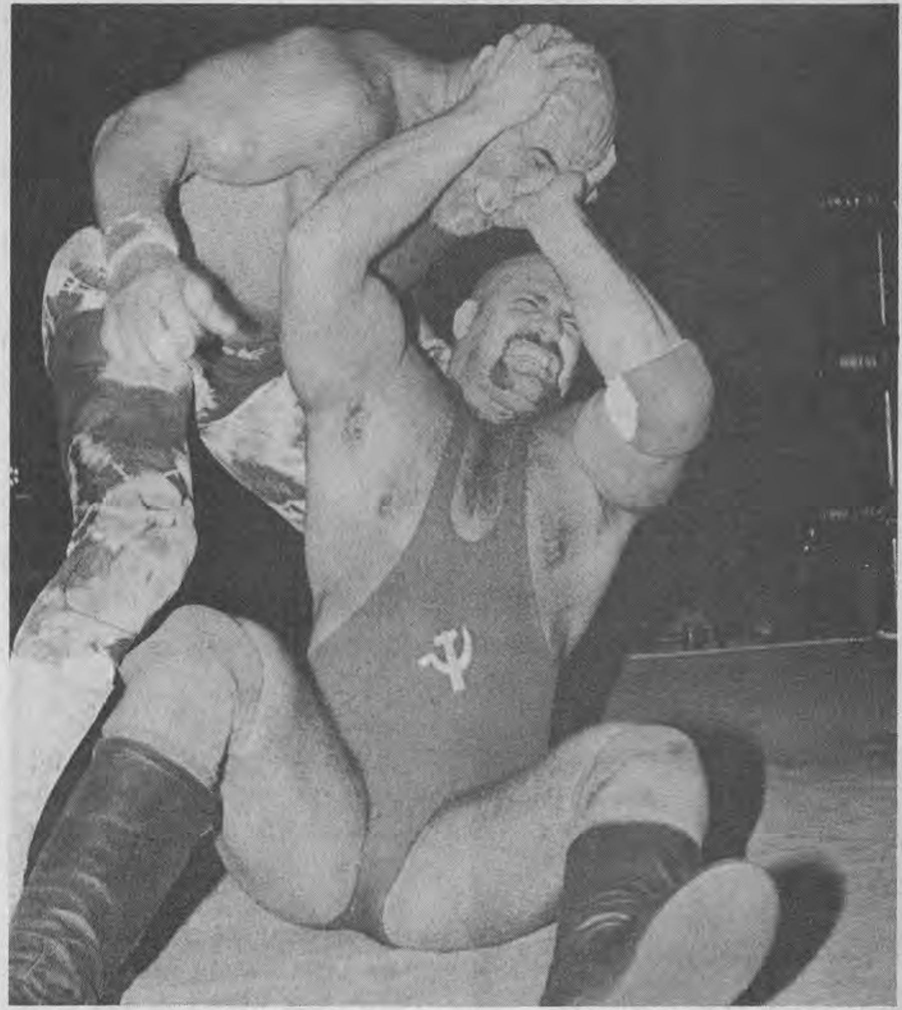
NIKITA KOLOFF

(Continued from page 31)



The dangerous Nikita will strike from any position. After being dumped on the mat, Koloff will grab Graham's head before the Superstar can pursue his offensive.

The whites of Koloff's eyes shot open, and a thin, bloodless smile passed his lips. Graham's own eyes closed as he redoubled his efforts, although he might have prayed for the darkness to shield him from the obvious, shattering truth. Nikita Koloff was toying with him. Koloff had not yet exercised a muscle, not flexed a bicep; nary a bead of sweat stained his brow. Tiring of the charade, Koloff rose to his full 77 inches and sent Graham screaming to his knees with an effortles flick of the wrist. Koloff sent his boot into the Superstar's throat and turned away in triumph and disgust.

Graham was in shock, as he would tell reporters later, but years of martial arts training allowed him to disguise it. Never in his career had he encountered such a force as this Nikita Koloff. But his 20 years of experience told him not to betray the fear that threatened to tie his stomach into knots.

He railed back at Koloff and sucker-punched the Russian in the back. He kicked Koloff square in the groin. He applied a deadly Taiwanese nervehold to Koloff's neck. He embraced Koloff in his trademark finishing maneuver, the bearhug.

Koloff continued to flinch off every Graham offensive as if his challenger were a pesky fly. The end came when Nikita wrapped his mammoth arms around Graham and simply squeezed the life out of his uncle's old enemy. He dropped Graham limply to the mat and covered him for the pin. In the final indignity, Ivan Koloff stormed into the ring, picked Graham off the mat and scored with a well-aimed kick to the Superstar's face. The two Russians

(Continued on page 60)

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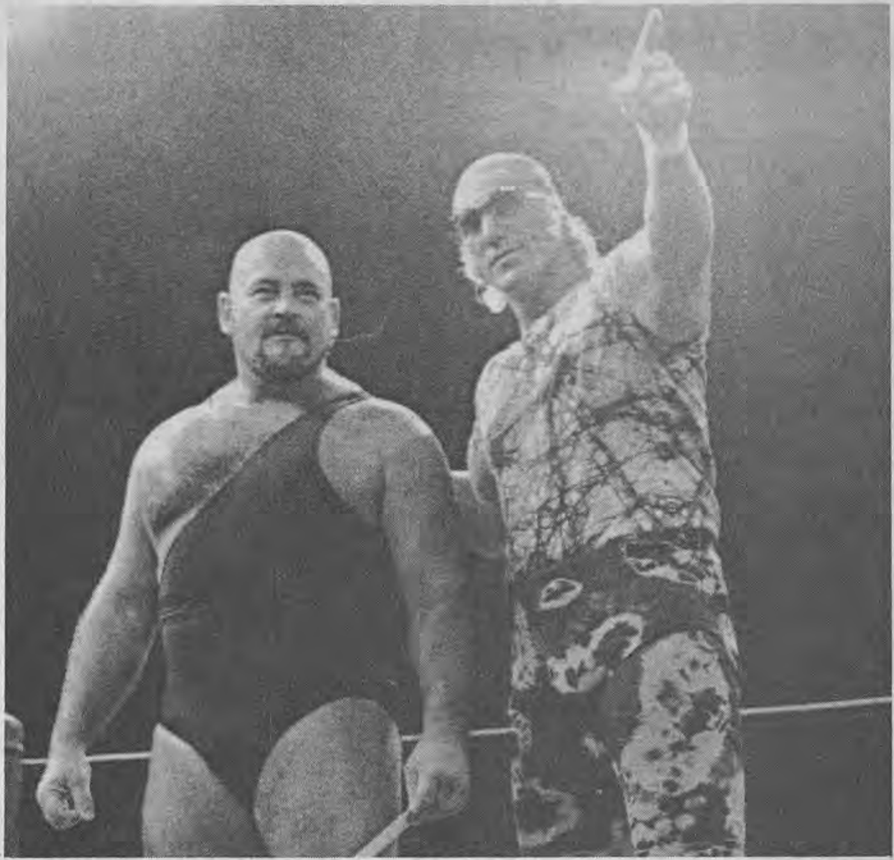
NIKITA KOLOFF

(Continued from page 59)



Ivan Koloff and Graham appear to be getting along before their ill-fated tag team match (above). Remembering the incident, Ivan takes a cheap shot at Graham after the Superstar's loss to Nikita (below).

stormed out of the ring triumphant, ignoring the derisive calls of the crowd.

After several tense moments, Graham rose to his feet and lumbered back to the dressing room. "It will take a dramatic revision in strategy, but mark my words, I will return and defeat both of those Russian sonofabitches," Graham said. "Consider this a learning experience. I just went back to school for the day."

With victory such a casual event, there were no celebrations in the Russians' locker room. Ivan Koloff did pause on his way out to inform reporters that, "If Mr. Graham still wonders why I left him in the ring 13 years ago, his embarrassing performance tonight is my answer. Russians do not tolerate or associate with inferiority."

Outside, winter threw a dying March gust at two shirt-sleeved figures as they approached their car. The taller one reared back his head and laughed; his uncle glanced up at him with pride and admiration. Not even the forces of nature can intimidate Nikita Koloff any longer. ☐

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September 1982/Cover stories: Von Erich, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Mascaras, Hansen, Rhodes, Blassie.

October 1982/Cover story: Funk-Abdullah. PLUS: Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.

November 1982/Cover story: Piper. PLUS: Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich.

December 1982/Cover stories: Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair. PLUS: Albano, Humperdink.

January 1983/Cover stories: Rich, McDaniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.

March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass, Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat.

April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Graham, Briscos. PLUS: Rhodes, Hogan.

May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS: Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco.

June 1983/Cover stories: Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson. PLUS: Brody, Sullivan.

July 1983/Cover story: Valiant-Humperdink. PLUS: Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.

October 1983/Cover stories: Martel-Valentine, Mulligan. PLUS: Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.

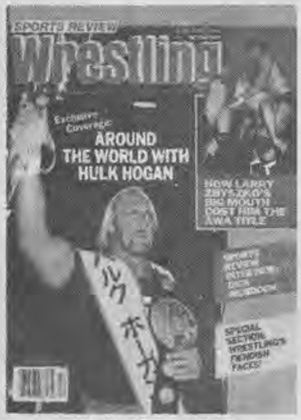
November 1983/Cover stories: Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody. PLUS: Slater, Wrestling II, Backlund.

December 1983/Cover story: Windham-LeDuc. PLUS: Santana, Sullivan, Garvin, masked wrestlers.

January 1984/Cover stories: Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.

February 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen. PLUS: Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.

March 1984/Cover story: Starrcade '83 featuring Flair, Steamboat & Youngblood, Piper-Valentine. PLUS: Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.



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April 1984/Cover stories: Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki. PLUS: Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/Cover stories: LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins. PLUS: The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!

June 1984/Cover stories: Windham-Flair, Gilbert. PLUS: Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.

July 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Gordy. PLUS: Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA Tag team tournament.

August 1984/Cover stories: Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes. PLUS: Zbyszko, Von Erich, The Faces Of Wrestling.

September 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.

October 1984/Cover stories: Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video. PLUS: Atlas, Spoiler, historic Orange Bowl card.

November 1984/Cover story: Von Erich & Billy Jack. PLUS: Andre, Fabulous Ones, The Summer Wars!

December 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Gilbert, Martel. PLUS: Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class action weekend.

January 1985/Cover stories: Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund. PLUS: Fabulous Ones, *Pro Wrestling USA*.

February 1985/Cover stories: Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts. PLUS: Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.

March 1985/Cover story: Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs. PLUS: 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.

April 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich-Blackwell, Billy Haynes-Jesse Barr. PLUS: Hart, Irwins, 1985 in Pictures.

May 1985/Cover stories: Albano, Freebirds-Flair. PLUS: Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas closeup.

June 1985/Cover story: Pro Wrestling U.S.A. PLUS: Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.

July 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches. PLUS: Backlund, Snuka.

August 1985/Cover stories: Flair vs. Nikita. PLUS: Orndorff, Slaughter, Haynes, Parade of Champions II.

September 1985/Cover stories: Adams vs. Von Erich, Orndorff. PLUS: Sawyer, Kamala, Barr, Atlanta action.

October 1985/Cover stories: Martel vs. Hayes, Richter. PLUS: Savage, Adams, Magnum T.A., Road Warriors.

November 1985/Cover stories: Freebirds vs. Warriors, Mid-South action. PLUS: Billy Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.

December 1985/Cover stories: Hogan, Zbyszko vs. Martel. PLUS: Youngblood, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.

January 1986/Cover Stories: Abdullah, Randy Savage vs. Tito Santana, Humongous. PLUS: Baron Von Raschke, Terry Taylor, Night in Comiskey Park.

February 1986/Cover stories: Junkyard Dog, 1986 Datebook. PLUS: Nick Patrick, Jim Garvin, Butch Reed.

March 1986/Cover stories: Starrcade '85 with Rhodes vs. Flair, The Russians vs. Rock 'n' Rolls, Tully vs. Magnum. PLUS: Jesse Ventura, Maha Singh, Sunshine.

April 1986/Cover stories: 1985 The Year in Pictures, Rick Martel & Stan Hansen, Kevin Sullivan & Maha Singh. PLUS: Hulk Hogan, Ted DiBiase.

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FABULOUS ONES

(Continued from page 33)

Look at the Rock 'n' Rolls. Are you going to tell me they don't duke it out against teams like the Koloffs and Road Warriors? We've followed the roughhouse influence in wrestling. We believe the right blend of science and brawling will net us a world title."

Against the Guerreros, any semblance of scientific technique was imprisoned in the Fab Ones' minds. Their ring tactics spoke of the most base kinds of physical slander. Was their double-team rake of Hector Guerrero's face across the cage scientific? And who but Kamala would claim Steve Keirn's vicious groin kick was legal? In abandoning the style that won them success and admiration, the Fabs are using their rulebreaking techniques as a crutch to get by.

Keirn rips a clump of hair from Hector's scalp in an effort to lift him back into the ring.

As Chavo Guerrero said after the match, "Those guys forgot what made them good. Wrestling the Fab Ones now is like wrestling two wild animals. Hector and I would never do such things, man. We would never dump on the fans. They've been too good to us."

(Continued on page 64)

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FABULOUS ONES

(Continued from page 62)

This match was anything but a typical cage match. More accurately, it should have been called a "wrought-iron death match." At the top of the cage, where much of the action took place, Keirn grinds Chavo's ear into the metal with his shoulder.

If any team was conditioned to adopt a rulebreaking style, it would be the Guerreros. Raised in one of Mexico's poorest sections, Hector and Chavo used their natural wrestling abilities to gain fame and fortune and bring their family out from poverty's hammerlock. They did at one time experiment with rulebreaking as a fast and easy route to success, but they were able to bring their careers under control before doing permanent damage to themselves.

"Once you throw your first punch, you forget how to suplex and dropkick," Hector explained. "Once you rely too much on illegal tactics, you will never realize your full potential."

The Fabulous Ones would do well to heed Hector's homespun wisdom. As Keirn and Lane punched their way through this brutal cage match, the Guerreros stuck by their science. Bloody, their skin like shredded lettuce, the two teams plotted different routes to victory. In the end it was a stunning double-piledriver, delivered simultaneously by Hector and Chavo that secured the win for the Guerreros.

There were no handshakes, no toasts; whatever friendship that existed between these two teams was now lost, mingled between the stitches administered in the dressing room. For their efforts, the Guerreros had the victory to go along with the standing ovation the crowd awarded them.

The Fabulous Ones refused to dwell on the setback, although Stan Lane admitted he missed the cheers. "We're comfortable with this style," he said. "It'll all come together, I'm sure. Sometimes it's nice to hear the crowd behind you. I'd be lying if I said I didn't miss it. But we can't worry about that now. We've got to concentrate on winning."

But how fabulous can The Fabulous Ones be with this new emphasis on rulebreaking? Can the team, which, because of its relatively small size relied on dazzling speed and high-tech strategies to defeat larger opponents, afford to rough it up with teams the size of The Road Warriors and the Koloffs? Judging from their performance against the Guerreros—a team of approximately the same size—one would suggest Keirn and Lane return to the original recipes of their success, a course Steve Keirn hasn't ruled out.

"We're flexible," the young blond explained. "If this doesn't work, we'll try something else. We're not out to make enemies, we're just out to win—like everyone else." □

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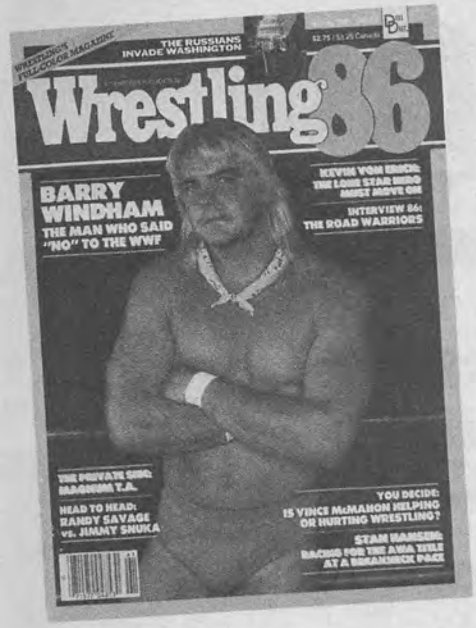

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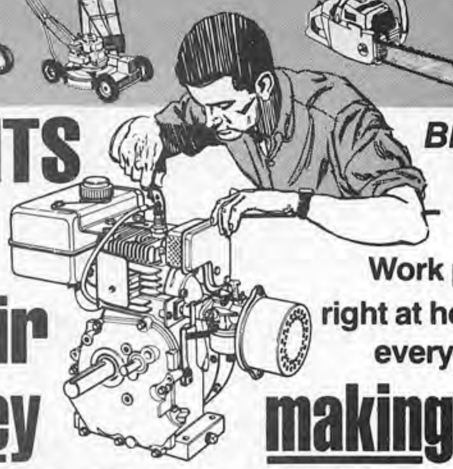


BEAT INFLATION!

Cash in on the huge demand for small engine repair.

Work part time, full time right at home - we help you every step of the way.

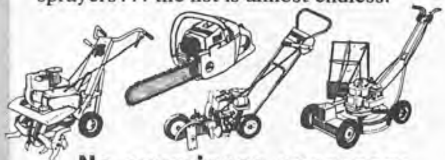
Start your own money making business!

In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America... an industry where qualified men are making from $25.00 to $30.00 per hour... and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.

Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices — as much as $49.95 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

65-million small engines are in service today!

That's right — there are over sixty-five million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Foley-Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Home-owners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers... the list is almost endless.



No experience necessary.

You don't need to be a 'born mechanic' or have prior experience. If you can read, you can master this profitable trade right at home, in your sparetime, without missing a single paycheck. Lessons are fully illustrated — so clear you can't go wrong.

You receive trade secrets and business plans.

We guide you every step of the way, including tested and proven instructions on how to get business, what to charge, how to get free advertising, where to get supplies wholesale... all the "tricks of the trade"... all the inside facts you need to assure success right from the start.

Increased Income

"I've had about 8 years experience repairing small engines... but repairs were only minor... until I started the Foley-Belsaw Course."

Walter H. Strick
Campbell, California

With our famous 'learn-by-doing' training method, you get practical 'hands-on' experience with specialized tools and equipment that you'll receive with your training *plus* a brand-new 4 HP engine — *all yours to keep!*

SEND FOR FREE FACTS!

You risk nothing by accepting this offer to find out how Foley-Belsaw training can give you the skills you need to increase your income in a high-profit, recession-proof business of your own.

Just fill in and mail coupon below (or send postcard) to receive full information and details by return mail. *DO IT TODAY!*

You get all this Professional equipment with your course, PLUS 4 H.P. Engine.... ALL YOURS TO KEEP.... All at NO EXTRA COST.

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Tells how you quickly train to be your own boss in a profitable Sparetime or Fulltime business of your own **PLUS** complete details on our **30-Day NO RISK Trial Offer!**

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☐ **YES,** please send me the FREE booklet that gives full details about starting my own business in Small Engine Repair. I understand there is no obligation and that no salesman will call.

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This is the biggest offer in wrestling. A 4-pack of our giant Super Color Specials is perfect for every wrestling fan. Each Super Color Special contains articles and news on the top stars in the sport. But the *biggest* thrill is when you unfold this magazine: Each Super Color Special features a giant, *8-page,* 22'' x 32'' SuperCenterfold (four times the size of a regular *PWI* centerfold)! In all, you receive more than 19 square feet of colorful wrestling excitement. And the best news of all is the price. You receive four Super Color Specials for the incredibly low price of $10.00.

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